

# THE ATHLETIC

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 2398.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1873.

PRICE  
THREEPENCE  
REGISTERED AS A NEWSPAPER

## METALLURGY.—ROYAL SCHOOL OF MINES, Jermyn-street.

Dr. PERCY, F.R.S. will commence a Course of FIFTY LECTURES on METALLURGY, on TUESDAY NEXT, the 14th inst., at 2 o'clock, to be continued on each succeeding Wednesday, Thursday, Monday, and Tuesday, at the same hour. Fee for the Course, 4l. TRENHAM REES, Registrar.

## BRISTOL MUSICAL FESTIVAL, COLSTON HALL.

OCTOBER 21st, 22nd, 23rd, and 24th, 1873.

Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Mr. Sims Reeves,  
Madame Otto Alvaehlen, Mr. Edward Lloyd,  
Miss Julia Wigan, Mr. Vernon Rigby,  
Madame Patey, Mr. Lewis Thomas,  
Miss Enriquez, Mr. Santley.

Organist—Mr. George Riskey.

BAND and CHORUS upwards of 400 PERFORMERS.

Chorus Master—Mr. A. Stone.

Conductor—Mr. CHARLES HALLE.

TUESDAY MORNING, Oct. 21st, at 1 o'clock, Haydn's CREATION.  
WEDNESDAY MORNING, Oct. 22nd, at 1 o'clock, Mendelssohn's ELIJAH.

THURSDAY MORNING, Oct. 23rd, at 1 o'clock, Macfarren's ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST, first time of Performance; and Mendelssohn's LOGGERS.

FRIDAY MORNING, Oct. 24th, at 1 o'clock, Handel's MESSIAH.  
On TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY EVENINGS, at 8 o'clock, a Miscellaneous Selection.

On THURSDAY EVENING, at 8 o'clock, a Miscellaneous Selection and Rossini's STABAT MATER.

The Selections include—Overtures to Weber's 'Der Freyschütz' and 'Euryanthe,' Wagner's 'Tannhäuser,' Rossini's 'Guillaume Tell,' Mendelssohn's 'Midsummer Night's Dream' and 'Meerestille,' Beethoven's 'Leonora,' Mozart's Symphony in E flat, and Beethoven's Symphony in C Minor. The whole performed by Mr. Charles Halle's Complete Orchestra.

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Four Tickets for any one Concert except	4l 10s	50s 7d
'Messiah,' if purchased before Oct. 14th..	3 30	1 10
Evening Performances	0 15	0 7
Four Tickets for any one Concert, if purchased before October 14th	2 20	1 10
Secured Seat (transferable) for all Seven Performances..	4l 14s	6
Unsecured ditto	2 20	1 10
Applications for Tickets (which should in all cases be accompanied by a remittance) may be made to Mr. CHARLES PATEY, Hon. Sec., Colston Hall, Bristol.		
Cheques and Post-office Orders to be made payable to the Treasurer, Mr. G. W. EDWARDS.		

## CRYSTAL PALACE.—PARTICULAR ATTRACTIONS THIS DAY AND NEXT WEEK.

SATURDAY (October 11).—Second Saturday Concert, at 3.

MONDAY.—The Grand Military Fete, under Special Patronage of H.R.H. The Duke of Cambridge and H.S.H. Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar—Special Features, Superb Display of Great Fireworks, &c.

TUESDAY and THURSDAY.—Opera at 3.

SATURDAY.—Third Saturday Concert, at 3.

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## MARK TWAIN.—MR. GEORGE DOLBY begs to

announce that Mr. MARK TWAIN (the American Humorist) will deliver a LECTURE, of a humorous character, at the Hanover-square Rooms, on MONDAY EVENING NEXT, the 14th inst., and in the evening of the same day, at 8 o'clock, on the same subject. The Lecture will be given in the most interesting manner, and is well acquainted with his subject, the Lecture may be expected to furnish matter of interest.—Stalls, 6s.; Unreserved Seats, 3s. Tickets may be obtained of Chappell & Co., 50, New Bond-street; Mitchell, 25, Old Bond-street; Keith & Co., 45, Cheapside; A. Hays, Royal Exchange-buildings; Mr. George Dolby, 22, New Bond-street; Mr. Hall, at the Hanover-square Rooms; and at Austin's Ticket-office, St. James's Hall, Piccadilly.

## UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.

ARCHITECTURE AND CONSTRUCTION.

Professor T. HATYER LEWIS commenced his COURSE of LECTURES on TUESDAY, the 7th October.

The subjects will be arranged as follows:—COURSE A. Fine-Art Ancient Architecture, every TUESDAY, 4.30 to 5.30 p.m., from October 7th to the end of January—Fifteen Lectures. COURSE B. Construction Materials, Drainage, Foundations, Walls, Timber, &c., every TUESDAY, 5.30 to 6.30 p.m., from October 7th to the end of January—Fifteen Lectures.

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TEN, by Miss CHESSER, at the Wellington Hall, Wellington-street, ISLINGTON, on WEDNESDAYS, at 12.15 p.m., beginning October 22nd.

TWELVE, by Miss MACORNIH, at Abbey House, Springfield Villa, KILBURN, on WEDNESDAYS, at 4 o'clock p.m., Eight before Christmas, Four after, beginning October 29th. Fee for each Course, 10s. 6d.; Second, in same family or school, 7s. 6d.; Teacher, 7s.; Half 1 Course, 4s.—Tickets and Syllabus to be had in the Lecture-Room; or from the SECRETARY, National Health Society, 5, Adam-street, Adelphi, W.C.

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connection with University College, London.

Two Evening Courses of LECTURES adapted to Teachers and Candidates for Examinations, will be given to LADIES, at UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, respectively on the STUDY of ENGLISH, by Prof. MORLEY, on MONDAYS, at 6, beginning October 14; and on ENGLISH HISTORY, by Prof. BUND, on WEDNESDAYS, at 7.30, beginning October 16.

DAY CLASSES will OPEN on MONDAY, October 27. Prospectuses to be had at the Office in the College, or of J. E. MILNE, Esq., 27, Oxford-square, Hyde Park, W.

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Contents.

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## LITERATURE

*The Threshold of the Unknown Region.* By Clements R. Markham, C.B. (Low & Co.)

"THE North Polar region, that immense tract of hitherto unpenetrated land and sea which surrounds one end of the axis of our earth, is the largest, as it is the most important, field of discovery that remains for this generation to work out. To the people of this country it should have a peculiar charm; for maritime, and especially Arctic enterprise, runs like a bright silver thread through the history of the English nation, lighting up its darkest and most discreditable periods, and even giving cause for just pride at times when all other contemporary events would be sources only of shame and regret. Glorious, indeed, is the story of those northern voyages which made illustrious the names of so many naval worthies of past days; and every true Englishman should earnestly desire that the long roll may not be finally closed, and that this path to honour and distinction may be again thrown open to our Navy." It is with these words that Mr. Markham commences the highly-interesting volume now before us, the object of which, as stated in its dedication to the veteran Arctic explorer, Sir George Back, is—

"To give to the public a correct knowledge of the whole line of frontier separating the known from the unknown region round the North Pole, to recall the stories of early voyagers, to narrate the recent efforts of gallant adventurers of various nationalities to cross the threshold, to set forth the arguments in favour of a renewal of Arctic exploration by England, and to enumerate, in detail, the valuable and important results to be derived from North Polar discovery."

The author, who describes himself on the title-page as "formerly of H.M. Arctic ship Assistance," has performed satisfactorily a task for which he is, in many respects, eminently qualified; and we trust that he does not express in vain the hope that his work "will be of service, now that the people of England are reviving their interest in maritime enterprise, and that it will continue to be useful for reference."

The beginning of English Polar research dates from the middle of the sixteenth century, when the merchant adventurers of the Muscovy (now Russia) Company, trading to Archangel in the White Sea, sought to extend their commerce into the unknown regions lying further east within the Siberian Sea, through which they also hoped to find a navigable passage to Japan and China. The names of some of the commanders of the vessels of those merchant princes,—such as the ill-fated Willoughby, the more fortunate Chancellor, Burrough, Pet, Jackman, and others,—will always head the list of Arctic discoverers towards the north-east, a list which must also comprise the enterprising Henry Hudson, already immortalized through his discoveries in the opposite direction towards the north-west.

Mr. Markham has called attention to the marvellously small means with which the voyages of those early navigators were effected. Speaking of Hudson's first voyage, in 1607, in the *Hopewell*, in the service of the Muscovy Company, he says:—

"Here was a crew of twelve men and a boy, in a wretched little craft of eighty tons, coolly talking of sailing right across the Pole to Japan, and actually making as careful and judicious a trial of the possibility of doing so, as has ever been effected by the best equipped modern expeditions."

And yet Henry Hudson's *Hopewell*, of eighty tons, with twelve men and a boy, was a large ship in comparison with the *George*, of forty tons, with a crew of nine men and a boy, of his predecessor Arthur Pet, and Charles Jackman's *William*, of twenty tons, with five men and a boy,—two cockboats which actually penetrated into the Kara Sea, through the strait, to which the name of "Yugor Strait" is usually given, but which Mr. Markham contends, after the example of Dr. Beke and Dr. Petermann, ought properly to be called "Pet's Strait," and so we are glad to see it marked on his maps, in like manner as the so-called "Kara Strait" is named by them "Burrough Strait," after its discoverer, Stephen Burrough, in the year 1556.

But perhaps the adventure most deserving of being signalized is that of Robert Fotherby, who, in 1615, was despatched by Sir Thomas Smith, the first Governor of the East India Company, and also of the Company of Merchants discoverers of the North-West Passage, in the *Richard*, of twenty tons, with the famous William Baffin as his pilot, to seek a passage to the northward. In that frail craft they proceeded as far northward as about the eightieth parallel, where they were stopped by the polar pack near Hakluyt's Headland, the north-west point of Spitzbergen, which had been discovered eight years previously by Hudson, and, like him, they examined the pack edge for a considerable distance to the westward, but could find no opening, so that they had to return home in their twenty ton vessel, which they did in safety.

"Master Fotherby, however, was a man of a hopeful disposition, and though he could not deny that the sea between Greenland and 'King James his Newland' (Spitzbergen) was much pestered with ice, yet he 'would not seem to dissuade this worshipfull Companie from the yearly adventuring of 150l. or 200l., till some further discoverie be made of the said seas and lands adjacent.'"

Of these early enterprises Milton most unjustly said they "might have seemed almost heroic, if any higher end than excessive love of gain and traffic had animated the design." He should rather have declared them to be absolutely heroic, because the love of gain and traffic by which they were actuated did not close the minds of their promoters to nobler aims. When, in 1568, the Muscovy Company ordered Bassendine, Woodcocke, and Browne, to pass through Burrough Strait, and thence to sail eastward past the mouth of the river Ob, their instructions ran in these terms—"Which discoverie, if it be made by you, it shall not only prove profitable to you, but it will also purchase perpetual fame and renowne, both to you and our country." Well does Mr. Markham exclaim, "Would that instructions couched in this noble spirit were more common now!"

In those early times the Dutch were the not unworthy rivals of the English, both in the trade of the northern seas and in the discovery of the lands within them. For a century and a half they competed with us in the great and flourishing whale fisheries of Greenland and Spitzbergen, till, on their part,

it gradually came to an end in the latter half of the last century. At the same time they were most active in pushing their discoveries to the east and north; and it was confidently asserted, and very generally believed, that in several instances their vessels had nearly reached the Pole; the fact being, however, as was confessed by the Dutch skippers themselves to Mr. Daines Barrington in 1773, "We can seldom proceed much higher than 80° 30' N., but almost always to that latitude."

Of all the adventurous voyages of the Dutch—it may almost be said of any nation—the most remarkable were the last of the three undertaken in 1594–1596, by the illustrious Willem Barents, to discover a north-east passage by the Sea of Tartary (Siberia) to Cathay and China, as related by Gerrit de Veer, whose work was edited by Dr. Beke, for the Hakluyt Society, in 1853. We may give here a succinct account of the main events of the third voyage, not so much for the romantic interest of the story itself, as for the romance of its dénouement at the present day. In doing so, we shall follow Mr. Markham's narrative.

On this third voyage, after passing round the north-east end of Novaya Zemlya, Barents reached a bay most suitably named by him Ice Haven, where, being unable to extricate his ship from the ice, he and his crew, seventeen in number, "were forced, in great cold, poverty, misery, and griefe, to stay all the winter."

"Fortunately, they found a large supply of drift-wood, and with this material, eked out by planks from the poop and fore-castle of the ship, they built a house, into which they removed all their provisions and valuables. A chimney was fixed in the centre of the roof, a Dutch clock was set up and made to strike the hours, bedsteads were placed along the walls, and a wine-cask was converted into a bath. The surgeon wisely prescribed bathing as a necessary preservative of health. Snow-storms and gales of wind prevailed throughout the winter, which had the good effect of drifting snow round the house as high as the roof, and thus raising the temperature within. But their sufferings were intense, and it is touching to read of those poor fellows asking their skipper to let them make merry on Twelfth Night with a little sack and two pounds of meal."

Very different was the fare on board the Austro-Hungarian vessel, *Tegethoff*, under Lient. Payer, bound on a voyage of discovery along the coast of Novaya Zemlya in the track of Barents, and thence eastward to the most northern point of Siberia, Cape Chelyuskin, where he purposed passing the winter of 1872, and in the present year he hoped to continue the voyage to Behring's Strait. On the 18th of August, 1872, the *Tegethoff*, being then on the opposite side of Novaya Zemlya, in nearly the same latitude as Barents's Ice Haven, the Emperor's birthday was kept, when "covers were laid for twelve, and the *ménu* comprised a haunch of reindeer, bear-steaks, six bottles of Moselle, six of Hungarian wine, six of champagne, and a large Christmas pudding. A few days after this sumptuous repast, namely, on August 23rd, 1873, the *Tegethoff* was last seen boldly pushing her way, with the aid of steam, round the northern coast of Novaya Zemlya; and all who love gallantry and adventure, all geographers and seamen of every civilized country, will heartily join with Mr. Markham in the earnest hope that "the next news of the brave Austro-Hungarians

will be good news, and that they will succeed in their useful but difficult undertaking."

We now return to the not less gallant and adventurous Dutchmen, who passed the Twelfth Night of the year 1597 making merry on "a little sack and two pounds of meal," with which they made a twelfth-cake and drew for king. In the following summer, Barents and the survivors of his crew (three or four having died during the winter) set out on their return voyage in two open boats, which they had built with the timbers of their ship, and they marvellously reached home in safety, with the exception of their able leader, who, having long been ill, sank under the fatigues of the voyage, and, like Behrend, La Perouse, Franklin, and now Hall of the *Polaris*, found a grave in the midst of his discoveries.

This voyage of Barents, though the first, remained the only one in which the north-east end of Novaya Zemlya had been rounded; so that the house in Ice Haven remained unvisited for nearly three centuries. But the spell was broken in 1871, when the Norwegian, Elling Carlsen, the circumnavigator both of Spitzbergen and of Novaya Zemlya, who has now joined the Austro-Hungarian expedition as pilot, reached the spot, on September 9 of that year, and saw the house still standing at the head of the bay.

"He found it to be 32 feet long by 20 broad, and the planks of which it was composed were 1½ inch thick by from 14 to 16 inches broad. The materials had evidently belonged to a ship, and amongst them were several oak beams. Round the house were standing several large puncheons, and there were also heaps of reindeer, seal, bear, and walrus bones. The interior is described by Capt. Carlsen exactly as represented in the curious old drawing in Gerrit de Veer's narrative, which was reproduced in the edition of the Hakluyt Society. [It is given again on page 19 of Mr. Markham's work.] The row of standing bed-places along one side of the room was exactly as shown in the drawing, and several of the articles represented in the drawing, the clock, the halberd, and the muskets, were still in their old places."

Mr. Markham gives a list of the numerous articles, down to the minutest scrap, found and brought away by Capt. Carlsen; and he remarks that—

"The house in which Barents and his gallant crew had wintered can never have been entered by human foot during nearly three centuries that have since elapsed. There stood the cooking-pans over the fireplace, the old clock against the wall, as shown in the drawing, the arms and tools, the drinking vessels, the instruments, and the books that had beguiled the weary hours of that long night, two hundred and seventy-eight [?] years ago. The 'History of China' points to the goal which Barents sought, while the 'Manual of Navigation' indicates the knowledge which guided his efforts. Stranger evidence never told a more deeply interesting story."

The articles enumerated by Mr. Markham are, perhaps, the most valuable in an antiquarian point of view; but not the least interesting are the flute, which will still give out a few notes, and the small shoes of the poor little ship's boy, who died during the winter.

On Capt. Carlsen's return to Hammerfest, in Norway, Mr. Lister Kay, who happened to be there on his way to Lapland, purchased from him these remains of Barents, which he liberally ceded to the Dutch Government at the price he had paid for them, thereby securing to the native land of the great

navigator the precious relics, which are now safely deposited in a room in the Foreign Office at the Hague.

We have been led away to this episode of Barents from the subjects which are the main scope of Mr. Markham's work, namely, the expediency of a Government expedition of discovery towards the North Pole, the selection of the route to be adopted by the expedition, and the advantages to be derived therefrom.

That an expedition of some sort must and will be undertaken during the spring of 1874, seems inevitable. If the Government should persist in withholding the means, they would undoubtedly be forthcoming from private sources. But apart from the national disgrace that would attend such a course, it is indisputable, as Mr. Markham justly remarks, that—

"Private expeditions, without naval discipline, inefficiently equipped, and inadequately provisioned, are exposed to great dangers; but so they would be in all other parts of the world. It is for this reason that all officers with Arctic experience insist upon the necessity for a Government naval expedition, and for officers and men being under naval discipline and control. In this view Mr. Robeson, the American Secretary to the Navy, now fully concurs. In his recent Report to the President, after examining the rescued men of the *Polaris*, he emphatically says that 'there is little of either success or safety in any expedition which is not organized, prosecuted, and controlled under the sanction of military discipline.'"

As regards the dangers of Arctic navigation, our author asserts that they are thoroughly understood, and that men like Back, Collinson, Ommaney, Richards, McClintock, Sherard Osborn, and Vesey Hamilton, would not give fool-hardy advice, and advocate the exposure of their professional brethren to undue risks. He is highly indignant with the "danger-mongers," and says:—

"Let them be told that the pursuit of knowledge is at least as good a motive for incurring risks as the pursuit after their luxuries, and that the words of good Sir Humphrey Gilbert have not yet come to be looked upon by his countrymen as other than wise and true: 'He is not worthy to live at all who, for fear and danger of death, shunneth his country's service or his own honour; since death is inevitable, and the fame of virtue immortal!'"

As regards the route to be taken, an elaborate and exhaustive examination, in separate chapters, of "The Spitzbergen Route," "The East Coast of Greenland," "Baffin's Bay and the Passage of the Middle Pack," "Smith's Sound," and "The Parry Islands," leads the author to the conclusion, unequivocally and unhesitatingly expressed, that the route to be preferred is that to the west of Greenland, through Davis Strait, Baffin Bay, Smith Sound, and so northwards by Robeson Strait, where Capt. Hall, in the *Polaris*, reached the parallel of 82° 16' N., only 464 sea miles from the North Pole; this being the northernmost limit ever reached by any ship, whilst Parry's "furthest" in boat-sledges was 82° 45' N., or close on half a degree nearer the Pole.

To the route between Greenland and Spitzbergen, known as the Spitzbergen route, which has usually been advocated by those who believe in a vast navigable ocean free of ice round the Pole, Mr. Markham offers serious, and, as would seem, irrefragable objections; apart from which, he contends that Arctic exploration by the Spitzbergen route is suffi-

ciently provided for by Mr. Leigh Smith's adventurous expedition, consisting of his own steam-yacht, *Samson*, and Mr. Lamont's steamer, *Diana*, which left Dundee on the 10th of May, 1873, with the intention of proceeding to Jan Mayen Island, and thence working northwards along the edge of the ice, and forcing their way to the eastward along the northern shore of Spitzbergen, with a view to attain the highest possible northern latitude in the direction that may there seem most practicable. Mr. Leigh Smith and a small band of scientific friends will proceed in the *Diana*, leaving the *Samson* in Cobbe's Bay, near the north-west point of Spitzbergen; so that should any accident happen to the former vessel, there would be the other to fall back on.

The objections of the "grumblers, who croak about one expedition leading to another and another," is met by the suggestion that the proposed expedition, like that of Mr. Leigh Smith, should consist of two steamers, one of which would be stationed as a depot near the entrance of Smith Strait, within easy annual communication with England, so as entirely to preclude "the possibility of its becoming necessary, even under the most unfortunate and improbable combination of circumstances, to despatch search expeditions hereafter."

Mr. Markham estimates that, "besides the original cost of ships and outfit, the proposed Arctic expedition may cost from 20,000*l.* to 30,000*l.* a year, for three years; but the ships, on their return, will fetch a good price."

For the numerous and important scientific and material results likely to accrue from the expedition, we must refer to the work itself, of which we will now give the concluding, as we have already given the opening, passage:—

"An expedition for North Polar discovery by way of Smith Sound will yield most valuable scientific fruits, will involve no undue risks, and will entail an expenditure which is utterly insignificant when compared with the value of its results. For these reasons it deserves such cordial support from the people of this country as will induce the Government to undertake it. When it is remembered how beneficial are the indirect advantages invariably derived from voyages of discovery, and how important it is that naval officers, who are breaking their hearts from the impossibility of getting employment, should have some additional chances opened to them, an interest will be felt in these voyages even by men whose education does not enable them to understand their scientific value. The same enterprise, courage, endurance, and presence of mind, are required to conduct an Arctic expedition as to face an enemy in the field; though in the former case these qualities are merely exercised in advancing civilization, extending knowledge, and exciting friendly sympathy and interest throughout the world. For a time we have done with wars. Let us hope that we have done with arbitrations. Now, then, is the time for old England to take her place once more in the van of Arctic discovery."

In an Appendix are given the proceedings, in December, 1872, between the "Arctic Deputation" from the Royal Geographical Society and other scientific bodies and the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the first Lord of the Admiralty. The work is well got up: it is illustrated with nine excellent maps; and, in addition to a copious Table of Contents, it has a still more copious Index.

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*Year-Books of the Reign of King Edward the First. Years XXI. and XXII.* Edited and Translated by Alfred J. Horwood, of the Middle Temple, Barrister-at-Law. (Published under the authority of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, under the direction of the Master of the Rolls.)

"TALK of a priest-ridden country!" said Lord Westbury in a famous speech; "that England is a lawyer-ridden country is beyond the possibility of denial." Towards the close of the thirteenth century the lawyer was already in the saddle, and he owed his seat there to causes the chief of which have been indicated by the greatest of Lord Westbury's predecessors. Adverting, in the dedication of his *Law Tracts* to Queen Elizabeth, to the attention devoted by King Edward the First to legislation and law reform, Lord Bacon has pointed out that, independently of the character of the King, there were in the state of society in Edward's time, as in Queen Elizabeth's own, two conditions tending to give that direction to statesmanship, namely, the multiplication on the one hand, in a time of peace and growing wealth, of suits and controversies, and the increase, on the other hand, of cunning abuses of law. The *Year-Books*, 21 and 22 Edward the First, for which the public is much indebted to Mr. Horwood, the editor, contain ample evidence of the fertility of both these sources of emolument and power to the rising legal profession. We see a natural and healthy increase of the business of the courts of law with the growth of population, material prosperity, commercial dealings, and law-abiding habits; and we see a mass of litigation arising from tortious acts, from the spirit of legal chicanery, and from the facilities afforded by legal artifices and technicalities for the maintenance of wrongful and the defeat of just claims. We see, in short, the social life and spirit of the age, for good and for evil, clothing itself in a legal dress. The *Year-Books* are not mere records of legal proceedings; they are records of the state of society, and ought to rank among our principal sources of information respecting the economic and civil condition of England during the closing centuries of the Middle Ages, as well as respecting the development of English jurisprudence. Great stress is sometimes laid on the criminal records of the Middle Ages as the faithful mirrors of the times, reflecting their violence, lawlessness, ferocity and fraud, and the prevalence of perpetual warfare and brigandage. And, beyond question, men in those days were commonly fiercer, more unscrupulous, more ready to resort to either force or fraud, to accomplish their ends than they are now, yet it is none the less unjust and erroneous to take the character, either of a nation or of a state of society, from its criminal records. We should not find a fair representation of English life and manners at the present day in the ruffianism and villainy brought to light in our criminal courts. The reports of the cases tried in the civil courts afford much better pictures of the character of an age; they relate to much larger numbers of people, and to much commoner transactions. The evidence they present, in the *Year-Books* before us, is by no means of one kind only. They are

full of wrongful acts, false claims, iniquitous defences, and legal technicality in place of substantial justice; but they are yet fuller of evidence of increasing industry, commercial activity and wealth, of a disposition, on the part of the people at large, to resort to peaceful litigation rather than to arms for the settlement of their differences, of the rise of the middle-class and of the weaker sex, and of the protection of the rights of the weak and the humble by the tribunals. The annals of crime in the last two centuries of the Middle Ages would leave an impression that society from the reign of Edward the First down to the reign of Henry the Seventh was in a state of continual anarchy, through perpetual warfare, robbery, violence, fraud, and high-handed tyranny. The reports of the business of the civil courts tell a different tale; they show that law and the administration of justice played a great part in the social economy, and that the ordinary life and actions of men and women in general were laid out on the expectation that the tribunals would maintain their legal rights and redress their wrongs, where those wrongs were unsanctioned by law. A conspicuous feature of the age exhibited in these *Year-Books* of Edward the First is, it is true, legal chicanery. Litigants are resorting to the form and letter of the law to sustain the most unjust actions and claims, and lawyers are entangling men in a net of technicality and legal artifice. But there is a more plentiful and healthy kind of litigation, arising from the natural business of life; sales and leases of land are dissolving the feudal system; women are acquiring property and boldly asserting its rights; and instruments in writing are preserving evidence, baffling perjury, and superseding the resort to superstitious and unjust tests.

It is significant that the first case in the volume before us is an action to obtain the price due on a sale of land; and the second case, an action by a woman to recover land which she claims as her property; while in both cases a written document is produced in evidence by one of the parties. It would not be easy to adduce three clearer indications of social improvement than the multiplication of money dealings, especially with land; the rise of women in the economic and social scale; and an increased use of writing and of documentary evidence. Prof. Nasse has remarked that a system of money payments, as opposed to mediæval exchanges in kind, became general in England much sooner than on the Continent, and traces the earlier progress of England in that respect not only to its advantages in situation and natural means of communication, but also to the earlier consolidation of a strong central executive power, and a more efficient police for the preservation of peace and security; and one of the most prominent facts on the surface of the *Year-Books* before us is the frequency of pecuniary transactions. Sales, mortgages, and leases of land for sums of money, which are often considerable, having regard to the high value of money at the period, crowd the pages of the volume. The intervention of money has evidently, in many cases, transformed the tenure of land and the relations of men founded upon it. Services, both military and servile, have been largely commuted for fixed money rents;

and estates have passed by purchase into the hands of peaceful and improving owners, not unfrequently women.

An elevation of the position of women is another infallible indication of both economic and moral improvement; and we have in these *Year-Books* abundant proof of their admission to considerable proprietary and other legal rights, and their confident exercise of those rights. Nothing, indeed, is more striking in the reports of the business of the civil courts in the last decade of the thirteenth century than the frequent appearance of women as parties to suits, as proprietors of land (putting in full force their proprietary rights), or as the persons through whom rights of property are claimed. We find them buying land, doubling the value of land already acquired, making seizures for rent and for trespasses, suing before the tribunals, and sued before them, instead of being assailed or resisted by force; and a state of society in which women are freely acquiring property, and vigorously supported by legal tribunals in the maintenance of important individual rights, is one far advanced beyond barbarism.

Equally clear is the proof of social progress afforded by the frequent appeal in the cases reported in these *Year-Books* to the evidence of written documents, indicating, as it does, an increased diffusion of the art of writing, increased providence, and the disuse or decline of the barbarous and iniquitous institutions of trial by ordeal, combat, and compurgation. Yet, after all, it is in the records of the civil courts that we see the worst side of mediæval life,—the oppression resulting from villenage and the peril in which the humbler classes of the free population stood of being robbed, not only of their property, but of their liberty. The really darkest feature of society in the reign of Edward the First, and long afterwards, is not its lawless violence and crime, but the legal tyranny to which the mass of the rural population are exposed by their condition as villeins, and the precarious condition even of socage tenants, in consequence of the legal artifices often resorted to by the lords of the soil to plunder them with impunity, and even to reduce them to serfdom. It was a common device to defend the wrongful taking of the property of a free tenant by an "exception of villenage," or plea that the tenant held in villenage, and had therefore no *locus standi* in court against his lord, being lawfully subject to tallage at the lord's will. Take the following case:—

"A. made his plaint *de vetito namio* in the County Court against the Prior of C., for a horse taken; and the Prior purchased the *Recordari* into the Bench; and on the day given, A. counted against him. And the Prior answered that he was his vilen.—*Mutford* (counsel for A.). He cannot get to that, for John is in a free state, and that by your own suit; so we pray judgment, inasmuch as you have made yourself a party with us by the *Recordari*, if you can now get to say that we are a vilen.—*HEREFORD* (Judge). Answer to the allegation that the holders of that tenement held in villenage.—*Mutford*. We hold freely, by escuage and by the services of ten shillings, and suit to your court of C., every three weeks; and we have often been ensigned in your court; ready to aver it," &c.

On the other hand, we find socage tenants, who had been for generations treated as villeins, appearing as plaintiffs in court, and recovering their estate:—

"Several persons who were tenants of the Ancient Demesne, and who at a certain time were the King's men within the Ancient Demesne, brought a writ of attachment against the Abbat of C., which Abbat held the Ancient Demesne at a fee farm, and complained that he distrained them for customs and services other than what they ought to do, or what their ancestors had been used to do when the Ancient Demesne was in the King's hands; for that whereas they at that former time held by certain services (and they specified the services), yet he had distrained them for other services, and taxed them high and low at his pleasure, and made them pay ransom for their flesh and blood, &c.—*Hyham* (for the Abbat). Sir, we tell you that they are our villsins, and we found our church seised of them as of our villsins, taxing them high, &c.; and we pray judgment if they be answerable.—*METINGHAM*. When their ancestors held, &c., by a certain service from the time of William the Bastard until, &c., and then you and your predecessors made them attorn to you, and do services other than what their ancestors were accustomed to do, &c., think you that you charged the estate which the sokemen their ancestors had? Not so: answer over."

It is noticeable in this case that even the counsel for the tenant in ancient demesne treats the sokeman as holding a position beneath that of a free man:—

"*Spigurnel*. Sir, there are three kinds of men, namely, a free man, a villsin, and a sokeman, of the ancient demesne, who is of a condition between the two others; for it follows that if one is a sokeman he is not a villsin.—*Hyham* (for the Abbat). That is a false consequence; for the converse may be said."

The chief mischief connected with the mediæval institution of villenage was, that it not only exposed the actual villsins to grievous oppression, but also placed the free class of tenants above them in constant peril of being drawn into villenage, and subjected villsins who had gained their liberty to the risk of losing it again. The fugitive serf could not be reclaimed by his lord in a chartered town, after a residence of a year and a day; but if he returned to visit his home and friends, it seems that he might be reclaimed at any distance of time. Of this, we have a harsh instance in a case tried at the Middlesex Iter, xxii. Edward the First.

"One A. brought a writ of imprisonment against B.—*Heiham* (for B). He ought not to be answered, for he is our villsin. . . . We will tell you the truth; his father was our villsin, and held of us in villenage land in the vill mentioned in his count, and where he was taken; and he begot this A., and also one B., his brother, of whom we are now seised as of our villsin, and this A. went out of the limits of the villenage, and afterwards returned, and we found him at his hearth in his own nest, and we took him as our villsin, as every lord may well do; and we pray judgment.—*METINGHAM*. If my villsin beget a child on my land which is villenage, and the child so begotten go out of the limits of my land, and six or seven, or more years afterwards return to the same land, and I find him in his own nest, at his own hearth, I can take him and tax him as my villsin for the reason that his return brings him to the same condition as he was in when he went.—*Heiham*. He fell into the pit which he hath digged."

The most unfavourable side of the state of society at the close of the thirteenth century, which the Year-Books of Edward the First exhibit is connected with the institution of villenage; but the working of the law is also, in other respects, often mixed up with the grossest injustice and chicanery. We have complaints and pleas artfully framed to snap a judgment on a point of form; we have dilatory proceedings

to exhaust the means of the poor suitor, and the most impudent shifting of the ground of defence. The readers of one of the former volumes of Year-Books, edited by Mr. Horwood, will remember a criminal case where one Hugh, accused of rape, claims benefit of clergy, and on the failure of that claim on account of bigamy, refuses to be tried by an ordinary jury, demanding trial by his peers as a knight; then challenges the jury of knights, and on being required to read his challenges, objects that he cannot read, though, as the judge reminds him, he had begun by claiming benefit of clergy. There are not a few examples, in the Year-Books now before us, of similar audacious inconsistency in civil cases. For instance, the following:—"A. brought a writ of annuity against the parson of the church of N. for arrears of an annual rent of eight marks by the year." To this the parson in person pleads:—"Sir, we are men of Holy Church, and the rent is demanded of Holy Church; wherefore we are not answerable in this Court." The answer of the plaintiff's counsel is:—"You yourself brought the Prohibition because we pleaded in the Court Christian, wherefore we plead here."

A suitor might lose his cause by the misspelling of a letter in a name, though spelling was then neither correct nor fixed. Where, however, the mistake was made by an officer of the court, we find the judge rebuking counsel for attempting to take advantage of it:—

"One Adam brought a writ against Agnes. Agnes made default after appearance. Whereupon the demandant sued the Petit Cape; and, in the Petit Cape, Agnes was written instead of Agnes. *Assels* (for Agnes) thought thereby to upset the whole process, and he said,—'Sir, he sued the Petit Cape against Agnes, whereas he ought to have sued it against Agnes: judgment of the bad suit.—*METINGHAM*. It is not the fault of the party, but the fault of our clerk; and that fault will be amended by us. So we tell you that the process is sufficiently good, and you are not courteous in speaking in that fashion."

The Year-Books, 21 and 22 Edward the First, contain much evidence with respect to the rural economy of the time in the frequency of suits relating to cattle and sheep, rights of common, and rights of chase; the last-mentioned rights being in high estimation, not only for the sake of sport, but because also of the want of winter food for cattle and sheep, and the consequent absence of fresh meat, other than that supplied by the chase, during a great part of the year. There is an astonishing claim in the present volume of damages to the amount of 2,000*l.* by an Abbot, for hunting with horn and cry in his park, and detentions of his stray deer, cattle, and other animals, by the proprietor of a neighbouring forest. Mr. Hallam estimated the value of money in that age at fifteen or sixteen times its value in the early part of this century; and, at that rate, a shilling must have been better in the thirteenth century than a pound is now, at present prices. We have a curious example of the system of local police existing in Edward the First's time in one of the cases reported:—

"Walter de Beauchamp was summoned to answer Walter de Hoptone in a plea why he took the beasts of the said Walter, &c., and those beasts did impound, and in pound keep, &c. And Walter de Beauchamp comes, &c., and says that the ancestors of, &c., have in the said manor used

the following custom, namely, that for the preservation of peace in those parts, they might appoint officers, called 'Grith-serjeants,' in greater or less number, as seemed best to the said ancestors; and that the said officers were to be supported by the villsins of the aforesaid manor, and of the members of the said manor; and that because six pounds were in arrear from the villsins of Hymestoke for their proper proportion of the contribution for the support of the said officers, complaint thereof was made in the Court of Wemme; and it was adjudged by the said Court that they should be distrained for the aforesaid arrears, on the ground of which judgment the said Beauchamp avows the aforesaid distress," &c.

The foregoing examples are sufficient to indicate what a mass of information is contained in the Year-Books of Edward the First, with respect to the social economy and life of the period, as well as the nature and form of legal proceedings. It is to be regretted that the strict rules defining the functions of the editor of these invaluable historical records, leave him scanty room for affording the reader the assistance which his learning and familiarity with the subject would permit. In some cases we cannot but think he might advantageously overstep the line drawn by the Treasury, for the purpose of explaining his translation of peculiar phrases, or the meaning of important legal terms, such as "*Ideo ad Legem*."

The Reports in this volume are, Mr. Horwood informs us in the Preface, taken from the fine manuscript (D. 7. 14) in the University Library at Cambridge, which furnished the Reports printed for this series in the year 1866.

*Epitaphiana; or, the Curiosities of Churchyard Literature. Being a Miscellaneous Collection of Epitaphs; with an Introduction, giving an Account of various Customs prevailing amongst the Ancients and Moderns in the Disposal of their Dead.* By W. Fairley. (Samuel Tinsley.)

WHAT customs in disposing of their dead may be said to be prevailing among the ancients, who have long been disposed of themselves, we do not know, and Mr. Fairley cannot tell us. What he states of the moderns is very poor work indeed. With regard to the epitaphs he has collected, and which he flings down in an undigested heap before the reader, Mr. Fairley seems to be incapable of discerning which are genuine and which are mere epigrams for the nonce. As epitaphs are now mostly confined to names and dates, any one who collects the rare examples that have come under his own eye, and publishes them with proper references, does good service. Reading Mr. Fairley's book, however, is like going through the same churchyard that one has gone through from childhood to old age. Every line is a familiar acquaintance, and we are only too glad when the collector goes in imagination over the water in search of new matter.

If, however, we look with him into the American churchyards, we find little originality in the inscriptions. Some of these are no more original than the Transatlantic jokes hashed-up out of Rabelais; and many of them manifestly belong to No Man's Land. For example, here is one, with no better indication of whence it comes than that it is "from a cemetery near Cincinnati," and, apparently, in some other city, for the legend



runs thus:—"Here lies" (no name), "who came to this city and died for the benefit of his health." In Oxford, New Hampshire, the following is said to occur:—

To all my friends I bid adieu!  
A more sudden death you never knew;  
As I was leading the old mare to drink,  
She kick'd and kill'd me, quicker in a wink.

Something like the above is said to be found in our own churchyards, but probably the report is not to be relied on. On the other hand, something resembling the one below, which is "an American epitaph," is certainly to be found in Europe:—"Here lies Jane Smith, wife of Thomas Smith, marble-cutter. This monument was erected by her husband as a tribute to her memory, and a specimen of his work. Monuments of the same style, 250 dollars." The well-known epitaph on Franklin, by himself, is too self-complacent: "The work itself will not be lost, for it will (as he believed), appear once more in a new and more beautiful edition, corrected and amended by the Author," is a portion of it which is not distinguished for its humility. The blundering epitaphs beyond the ocean are naturally like our own. One, said to be at Karl Keel, runs in this fashion:—"Here lie the remains of Thomas Nichols, who died in Philadelphia, March, 1753. Had he lived he would have been buried here." Less amusing, because not so stupid, is the following, "from Baton Rouge, La.":—

Here lies buried in this tomb  
A constant sufferer from salt rheum,  
Which finally in truth did pass  
To spotted erysipelas.  
A husband brave, a father true,  
Here he lies and so must you.

Others, again, are mere refittings of old epitaphs, to be met with in books, and nowhere besides. Occasionally, a quaint and perhaps genuine line stirs the reader to smile,—like this, for instance, by a husband on a departed wife: "Tears cannot restore her, —therefore, I weep." The above is as good, in its way, as another, on a married couple, which closes with the line, "Their warfare is accomplished"! We fall again on the humorous, if not the original, in the epitaph on Edward Jones, who, "as a man was amiable, and as a hatter upright and moderate. His virtues were beyond all price, and his beaver hats were only three dollars each." Of course the widow will continue to supply them "at more reasonable rates than any house in the city." There is an attempt at plagiarism in the epitaph on the maiden who was "niece to Lady Jones, and of such is the kingdom of heaven,"—in the inscription on a girl who died through "eating green fruit in the full hope of a blessed immortality,"—ending with "go thou and do likewise." The simpler truth is inscribed (or might be) in the words on another damsel: "Died of thin shoes." It is, at all events, more to be relied on than the inscription "from Lichfield, Connecticut," which says of the person below it, that his "ethereal parts became seraphic on the 25th day of May, 1867." Other sleepers are honoured with more details and less poetic assertion. Thus one Hambrick "was accidentally shot with one of the large Colt's revolvers, with no stopper for the cock to rest on. It was one of the old-fashioned kind, brass mounted." Most of them, however, are clearly apocryphal. The only alleged American epitaph which really has some

dignity in its sentiment and expression, is this—

"From the Burying-ground of Concord, Massachusetts:—

God wills us free—man wills us slaves,  
I will as God wills: God's will be done.  
Here lies the body of

John Jack,

A native of Africa, who died  
March, 1773, aged about sixty years.

Though born in a land of slavery,

He was born free;

Though he lived in a land of liberty,

He lived a slave;

Till, by his honest, though stolen, labours,

He acquired the source of slavery,

Which gave him his freedom:

Though not long before

Death, the great Tyrant,

Gave him his final emancipation.

And put him on a footing with kings.

Though a slave to vice,

He practised those virtues

Without which kings are but slaves."

The above is the best of an indifferent lot, excepting, perhaps, the last, which we peruse with some gratification, namely, "On an author. FINIS."

*The Great Condé and the Period of the Fronde: a Historical Sketch.* By Walter Fitzpatrick. 2 vols. (Newby.)

BEFORE Mr. Fitzpatrick opens the drama of Condé, he plays a long, miscellaneous overture, with the history of France for its theme. In this introductory part, we come upon one of the serious inaccuracies which mar the work, and which a little more care would have rendered impossible. As early as the second page of the first volume, Mr. Fitzpatrick speaks of the "assassination of the great Duke (of Guise) by Paillot, an emissary of Admiral Coligni," in 1563. Here we find more blunders than lines. The Duke Francis of Guise, besieging Orleans, had sworn "that he would as surely get into that city (the last rallying spot of the Huguenots) on the morrow, as God's sun would get in." As he was riding back to his quarters, he was encountered by Poltrot de la Mer (not Paillot), a Huguenot officer, who brought him down by a pistol shot. It was an atrocious calumny of the Guisards that called this death, in war, a murder committed by a hired emissary of Coligni. We are told that Francis of Guise is, "by universal consent, one of the most splendid and stainless characters in history;" and of the whole house of Guise-Lorraine the author speaks in equally glowing terms. From among them came the Cardinal Charles, who planned the St. Bartholomew massacre, and his bastard brother the Abbé de Cluny, whose bloody work on that terrible day made him drunk with frenzy. The Duke Francis was not without the qualities which, in his day, passed for virtues; he was brave, but he was a liar and a hypocrite, circumstances which mar heroism. It was to him, sitting in affected humility at the lowest corner of the Pope's table, that a French soldier remarked, as he tried to find room below the Duke, "It shall never be said that the representative of the King of France had the humblest place of all at a priest's table!" We find blameable carelessness in such phrases as "a severe attack of gout," and "a barren nuptial of twenty years." We are puzzled to know why the Chevalier D'Emery is called "a Siamese adventurer." We are more than puzzled by the

bold assertion that Richelieu, having overcome the Huguenots, placed them "in all respects on an equal footing with the Catholics." It reminds us of a recent article in a Roman Catholic journal, in which it is averred that the Popes have always done precisely the same with regard to the Jews! indeed, have done more, granting them indulgences and luxuries that had never been accorded to the faithful. Again, we feel some perplexity at the remark that "there is not one of the so-called victims of Richelieu whose character or designs deserve the slightest sympathy." The author excepts the Duke de Montmorenci, "whose life," he adds, "was justly forfeited." Did Mr. Fitzpatrick ever hear of Urbain Grandier, of De Thou, of D'Effiat? and having heard, is it to be said that the characters and designs of such victims of "le vieux chat de Narbonne" deprive them of all right to the slightest sympathy?

Let us, however, pass over the mistakes of the author, his ultra-religious zeal, which is marked by sneers at famous Protestant leaders, and come at once to the subject of the great Condé. "Great men," said Clement the Fourteenth, "should only be seen in great detail," should only be painted at full-length. Life-size, heroic-size, kit-cat, miniature, full-faced, profile, or silhouette, Louis de Bourbon, Prince de Condé, "the great Condé," is but a small Frenchman. He is, however, one of those little men, lucky with their littleness, to whom the epithet of "great" will, probably, stick for ever. How a man can be fittingly distinguished by so proud an epithet who disregarded truth, was in no relation of life faithful, who turned his arms against his own country, and who shed the blood of his own countrymen, has always been a puzzle to reflecting people. "Vir magnus," with Cicero, implied a brave man; and as Condé was never afraid to do or say or encounter anything, in this sense he may still be distinguished as "le grand Condé."

Excepting the first and last portions of Condé's life, the whole of its story is almost exclusively that of battle; when not of battle, of intrigue. He was a true Parisian, born in 1621; he died at Fontainebleau in 1686. His military career, reckoning from his first exploit, began in 1643 at Rocroi. His last great battle was the indecisive one at Seneffe, in 1674. During the last ten years of his life the "soldier, tired of war's alarms," was surrounded by the most brilliantly intellectual men of France; and, after his death, at Fontainebleau, in his sixty-fifth year, he was wafted to heaven on the panegyrics of Bossuet and Bourdaloue. Of the man who was faithless to country and to friends, pulpit orators have made something only a little below a saint and martyr.

What is commonly called "luck," had much to do with Condé's successes. His rashness, selfishness, and utter disregard of human life when personal "glory" was to be obtained, stood him certainly in good stead; his first battle was fought in disobedience to the command of the government not to risk it, and in contempt of the most experienced generals who advised him to respect the order. Had he failed, he would have merited death; his triumph swept the Spaniards out of the road to Paris, and gave to the armies of France the prestige which had long been the distinction

of the soldiers of Spain. Again, at the "three days of Fribourg," it was a bare advantage which the French gained over the Germans. The triumph would have been as complete as that at Rocroi, had Condé listened to the counsel of Turenne. The poor advantage was got at awful cost of life, but the cold, cruel, nature of the man was illustrated by the remark, "one night of Paris will repair the loss!" Well may it be said of such a man that his rash tactics were "hardly redeemed by extraordinary genius from the reproach of fool-hardiness." It is but fair to add that Condé did, in time, learn the value of prudence.

He had not learnt it at the siege of Lerida, where he showed his hectoring and vulgar spirit, by sending at the head of his own regiment to the trenches four-and-twenty fiddlers, as if it had been a wedding. Voltaire has rebuked those who have censured this bravado by saying that such an incident was common with the Spaniards; but Gregorio de Brice seems to have been astonished at such an equivocal compliment, which he could only return by uncomplimentary sallies, repeated with such disastrous effect to the besiegers, that Condé was glad to get himself, fiddlers and army from before the walls of Lerida, in as much haste as was consistent with dignity. Indeed, dignity was never much observed by Condé. In the heat of one of the Fronde battles when he was pressed hard by Turenne and the royalists, he withdrew to a neighbouring field, took off his armour, stripped off his clothes, rolled himself in the grass, and then dressed himself, and rushed into battle again. This was the period when he inflicted most calamities on his country; and after he had extricated himself, he spent seven years in the camps and councils of Spain, betraying his country as he did his party. It was not a moment of pique; it was a deliberate seven years' treason against the flag which he had sworn to serve truly. The Spaniards saved his head by refusing to sign the treaty of peace till full amnesty had been guaranteed to him.

When we look at this hero in his social character, as citizen and gentleman, he seems but a poor creature. His wife, a niece of Cardinal Richelieu, lacked none of the qualities that endear a woman to an honest and true-hearted man. Condé was neither honest nor true-hearted. There was a certain fascinating Mdlle. Vigean, whose fascination lay not in her beauty, but in her expression, figure, and manners. She was quite above the hero's comprehension, for she scornfully refused the splendid infamy he proposed to her. But Condé was as eager to subdue a poor girl to his will as to destroy a hostile army by his assault, and he resolved to divorce his blameless wife that he might raise Mdlle. Vigean to her place. This intention was rendered abortive; and when the hero next departed to the field of war, he is said to have unheroically fainted, not at parting from his wife, but at being finally separated from Mdlle. Vigean, who was ill-disposed to share his dignity. Perhaps she remembered the fate of Charlotte de Montmorenci, Condé's mother, of whom Madame de Rambouillet remarked that she had but two happy days in her life—her wedding-day, on which, by her marriage with her ill-favoured and dirty husband, she became a

member of the Royal Family, and the first day of her widowhood, on which she was released from her most filthy bargain. The father of the great Condé was a very little, and a most unpleasant personage; a mere pensioner on the bounty of Henri IV., for which distinction he surrendered Protestantism as readily as the King himself did for the sake of a crown.

The great Condé had nothing of the modesty of the true hero. He was insufferably imperious, intolerant, and conceited; and he estimated his abilities by a standard which no one else recognized. But even they who ventured to think him mortal, and not altogether infallible, acknowledged that he was a great "maître," a master in his art. He was, of course, imitated by smaller men. They adopted his manner (as Bond Street dandies used to exhibit the "Regent's roll"); they imitated his swagger, his impudence, his extravagances generally,—in short, the defects in his character; and the descendants of the "petits-maîtres" are to be found in the *petits-crêves* of the present day. Condé had one of the weaknesses of "petits-maîtres,"—ridicule enraged him. When he failed at Lerida, he was most exasperated, not by the fact, but by the fire of epigrams directed against him by the wits of Paris. His own wit was directed against the most sacred things. When Condé, with his brother Conti, and De Longueville, were prisoners at Vincennes, in the time of the Fronde, Conti asked for 'The Imitation of Christ'; Condé laughed, and preferred an 'Imitation of the Duke de Beaufort,' one of the most profligate men of his day. Rapid in battle, Condé was hesitating as a politician, a hesitation which, in the turbulent time alluded to, let slip for ever the great opportunity once within his reach of becoming supreme in the state. Mr. Fitzpatrick says that "Condé himself died penitent and resigned, leaving behind him a name immortalized by his own great actions, and by the eloquence of Bossuet." Condé is no doubt "great," by comparison. He was the son of a nasty father, and the father of a nastier son. As for his greatness, the fine phrases of Bossuet are drowned in the exclamation of Massillon: "Dieu seul est grand, mes frères!"

#### NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

*Is it for Ever?* By Kate Mainwaring. 3 vols. (Samuel Tinsley.)

*The Amusements of a Man of Fashion.* By Norman Nugent. 3 vols. (Tinsley Brothers.)

*Heathergate.* 2 vols. (H. S. King & Co.)

We are not quite certain of the drift of the solemn question which Miss Mainwaring propounds as the title of her story; but if, as we suppose, it refers to the eternity of indifferent novels, we are compelled to answer in a sad affirmative. The present work is but one more link in the chain of proof, that there is no limit to the flood of mediocrity which authors will produce, and publishers give to the world. Dealing as it does with "haughty aristocrats," as that term is understood on the stage, and theatrical rustics of great virtue and nondescript dialect, we may prophesy for it a certain popularity in kitchens and back parlours, which it will share with the hebdomadal sensations of the "penny weekly." The heroine, whose adventures are related in many

chapters, the strongest point of which is in all cases the spasmodic heading,—*"Out in the Night," "Oh heart, poor heart," "Misery," "Madness or Death,"* and the like,—is the daughter (illegitimate, of course) of a deceased gentleman, whose nephew, a lymphatic young man of no marked characteristics, woos and carries her off from the unwelcome embraces of a satyr named Joe, whose notions of courtship accord with those of the primeval times, when a thick club was at once the best passport to the heart of woman and the most effectual extinguisher of obnoxious rivals. Lucy vanishes with her gentlemanly swain, her neighbours drawing an obvious and unfavourable conclusion as to her connubial status. The impression is confirmed by the bad conduct of the elegant Richard, who, being pressed by debt and afraid to introduce his bride to his relations, coolly deserts her and marries another. Hereby hangs a tale of the usual length, and no unusual peculiarities. Whether the manners of the "aristocrats" or the language of the democrats (?) be the more unnatural, is perhaps a matter of doubt; but there can be no hesitation in according the highest credit for imaginative powers to an author who promotes her very lubberly Cymon to a commission and high distinction in the army, and describes the unhappy second wife of the sneak Richard as putting a melodramatic end to her existence by burning herself alive in her Belgravian mansion, an extravagant process which reminds us of nothing so much as Charles Lamb's account of the invention of roast pork by the ingenious Bobo and his father. Lady Elton and her daughter are like nothing in life; Miss Gathorne is a little less impossible, but the rudeness which the author considers the mark of good breeding is in her so outrageously developed as to spoil what was nearly being the one good character in the book.

The title of Mr. Nugent's work slightly deceived us, the quaint heading carrying us back to the recent past, and causing us to revert mentally to the era of hoops and patches, of Grandisonian politeness, and the toasts and fops of Ranelagh or of Bath. Blessed, however, are those who expect nothing: we were disappointed. Messrs. Tinsley Brothers have, like their relative, treated us, to a dreary prospect of modern high-life as seen from the servants' hall at nearest, possibly from the back kitchen by some inspired cook. However, we are consoled during three volumes of fairly printed letterpress by the society at a seemingly distance of an earl, dark, melancholy, and virtuous, and of two angelic satellites of the order so dear to middle-class romance, a celestial and a Satanic baronet. Uranian Aphrodite inspires the one; the other is an abandoned devotee of the more fleshly goddess. Sir Frederick lives happily ever afterwards; Sir Devereux dies becomingly, in a duel with an outraged husband. The *locus rei sitæ* is aptly chosen; it fulfils, in being the scene of so select a drama, the only purpose for which it could exist. On the summit of a gentle hill is erected the extraordinary structure called Donnington Grange. It has a fortified wall and an antique gateway. Further, it is decorated, in the classic style which obtains in granges, with a moss-grown column, while the heraldry of the Middle Age has added



a brace of lions, which "crouch on the threshold" in a convenient manner peculiarly their own. The porch, under which Sir Frederick "might have been seen standing" (this leads us to suspect the butler rather than the cook), is crowned by the motto "*Magni nominis umbra*"—a piece of prophetic retrospection which might so naturally occur to the founder of a rising family. In this tasteful and luxurious abode reside the Mortons, in whose family circle are gathered the principal actors in the several love-tales of which the novel is composed. We are bound to say that, if due deduction be made for the general style of the book, these different trains of narrative are not unskillfully combined. Those portions of the tale which verge on the improper, notably the dealings between Marion and the wicked baronet, are handled with much glow and gusto; the virtuous love, on the contrary, is impeded by many obstacles, so that we get rather weary of the estimable sufferers. There is an elaborate mystery also, for the delectation of the curious, involving the legitimacy and fortune of the leading heroine. The method by which Mary Morton acquires the affection of her earl (through the medium of his child, which she nurses after its mother's death) is a pretty bit of sentiment, and may be noted as a partial exception to the general mediocrity of the book.

Those "to the manner born" will find much delight in the idiomatic Aberdonian Scotch so unsparingly introduced in 'Heathergate,' and persons sufficiently advanced in life to appreciate the picture of manners and characters in the remote north-east of Scotland at the beginning of the century will find something more than the style to amuse them; but to the majority of English readers these points will be unattractive, while the multiplicity of the characters, and a certain want of artificial skill in the composition of the tale, will render the story somewhat confusing. It aims at nothing sensational, being merely the family history of one or two local households, and principally of an unsophisticated minister of the Episcopalian Church and his simple domestic circle. To many people it will introduce a type of Scottish society which they have never experienced, accustomed as they are to connect the idea of Scotland with the prevalent Presbyterianism of the Lowlands, or with the modern Highland enthusiasm, which the sporting habits of an age of railways have rendered fashionable. Of the provincialism of the braes of Aberdeenshire, the seat of popular Episcopalianism, which has there all the charm of a persecuted creed, and for many generations was associated with the equally provincial Jacobitism, most Englishmen and many Scotchmen have no idea. We have reason to think that the author has given a tolerably true picture of north-country society of a certain sort, not uncommon in the days of our grandfathers, and, though the dialect appears to us a little overdone, at least in the mouths of the better educated class, there can be no doubt of its idiomatic accuracy. As we should wish those who may be attracted by this account of what the book contains to read it for themselves (those who are not so will not read many pages), it is no part of our intention to reveal the plot. It is sufficient to say that it hinges on several love-tales of domestic and unevent-

ful character. The plot indeed is not the strong point of the story. Its merit lies in the marked antithesis of strongly developed characters, in different ranks of life, and resembling each other in nothing but their marked nationality. Tender and strong-hearted Menie; her sisters Euphane and Violet, more demonstrative, but not more loving in their natures; Ellen, unamiable but not unfeeling, destined to thaw and expand under the sunshine of prosperity; and an equal number of male characters throughout the book, have the impress of real life about them. But best to our thinking, and sufficient in herself to redeem the tale from insipidity, is Miss Jemima Clavers, the typical old maiden gossip of the town. A few of her remarks on men and things will bear extraction. Miss Violet is having her portrait taken in the character of St. Margaret. "Well lassie," says her old friend, "I hear you are gey set up wi' auld Penty Colville, seeking your picture for a saint or an angel, whilk is it? and twa officers staring at ye in yer white gown, and things for wings till yer shooters." Luddy Gowk, or Ogilvie, a gallant sailor, has done a generous act in volunteering as a substitute to save a poor man who is pressed for his wife and children. This is how Miss Clavers qualifies the story:—"Auld Rob Fisher, that brings the fish frae Beachside, tellt Freeman, Colin Colville's man (set him up wi' his body servant!), and he tellt a person that tellt my maiden, that the captain of the king's ship lying out owre frae St. Vigeans cam wi' a curm o' his men, wi' their cutlashes glintin in the sun, awful to behold, and seized Luddy, and he resisted (he was aye a bauld loon), and they clappit ains on his hands and feet, and handed him frae the boat to the ship like a bag of 'oo." Of course all correction of this version is absolutely useless. A deserted maiden is thus consoled:—"Want is no the warst dish in the kitchen, bad meat's far waur." Still better to our thinking is this comment on a drunken man:—"Stupid, senseless, eediot! *There's naething in him but what the spoon puts in!*" In spite of her acid tongue, Miss Jemima, on more than one occasion, shows real kindness of heart, and we part with her more regretfully than with any other character in the novel.

#### OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

THE account of *The Operations of the First Army under General von Goeben*, compiled from the Official War Documents of Head-Quarters of the First Army, by A. von Schell, Major in the General Staff, has been translated by Col. C. H. von Wright, and published by Messrs. H. S. King & Co. Count Wartensleben described the operations of the First Army up to the date of Manteuffel's departure to make head against Bourbaki. Major von Schell takes up the thread of the narrative, and relates how well General von Goeben filled the place of his able predecessor. The book is, indeed, a narrative in the strictest sense of the word, for the author confines himself almost entirely to a bare statement of facts, scarcely venturing on a single criticism. Necessarily the volume is very dry; but it is, undoubtedly, instructive, though so minute are the details that we fancy few, except the systematic student of military history, will care to follow the events described. The great fault of the author is that although, as we have remarked, he goes deeply into details, he abstains from showing us how each tactical unit accomplished its movements. We learn that a certain battalion drove the enemy from such a hill or wood, but we are not told in what order

the attack was conducted. This is a defect much to be lamented. The part of the campaign dealt with by the work before us comprises the battles of Bapaume and St. Quentin, both extremely interesting actions. In the former Faidherbe, had he but known it, was victorious, for the Germans were on the point of retreating when they found that their adversary had himself fallen back. At St. Quentin the Germans had but 32,000 to oppose to 50,000 men, but the former had 161 guns and 6,200 cavalry, while their opponents had only 90 guns and about 500 cavalry. The German troops also were veterans, while the French regiments were composed almost entirely of raw levies. The resistance they made, therefore, at St. Quentin was creditable to Faidherbe's troops, and not less so to their commander, who, with a few old regiments and a score of squadrons, would no doubt have accomplished much. Even as it was, neither the general nor his army has reason to be ashamed of the campaign of the north. The work is well translated, and is enriched by several clear maps.

WE were called upon, some four weeks ago, to review one *Pearl of the Antilles*, and now we are asked to review another. This second book about Cuba, for which priority of title is claimed, is from the pen of Mr. Goodman, an artist who resided for many years in the island, and is published by Messrs. King & Co. It is more social, and less political, than Mr. Gallenga's book; less valuable, and more amusing. We can recommend this volume to the general reader.

*Crisis-Cross Journeys*, by Mr. Walter Thornbury, published by Messrs. Hurst & Blackett, is rather ancient history, inasmuch as it consists of a reprint of articles from weekly periodicals, which contain a picture of America before the War, and of Russia before the Emancipation. America is not treated seriously; but the two or three chapters on Moscow, which form the Russian part of the work, are excellent.

THE miscellaneous writings of the late Mr. Wharton B. Marriott, the author of the *Vestiarium Christianum*, have been edited by Mr. Hort, and published by Mr. J. Mitchell, of Bond Street. They deal almost exclusively with points of theological dogma. The memoir at the beginning of the volume is written with taste and feeling, and the *Narrative of Three Years of Undergraduate Life*, by Mr. Meyrick, is particularly pleasant reading.

WE have on our table *Natural Philosophy*, Part I., 'Mechanics,' by J. A. Skerchly (Murby),—*Centrifugal Force and Gravitation*, Supplement A, by J. Harris (Trübner),—*The Periods of the History of English Literature in Sketches* (Amsterdam, Van Kampen),—*English Matrons and their Profession*, by L. F. M. (Low),—*The Ancient Hebrews*, by A. Mills, A.M. (New York, Barnes),—*A Handbook of Familiar Quotations*, edited by J. A. Mair (Routledge),—*Poems*, by C. Hetherington (Brooks),—*Japanese Ideas of London and its Wonders*, by a Japanese Scout (Shield),—*Early Blossoms*, by T. Gilbert (Thacker),—*Eve, and other Verses*, by C. Garvice (Keralake),—*The Persians of Æschylus*, translated by the Rev. W. Gurney, M.A. (Cambridge, Deighton & Bell),—*The Law relating to the Salmon Fisheries of England and Wales*, by J. W. W. Bund, M.A., LL.B. (Butterworths),—*Introduction to Roman Law*, by J. Hadley, LL.D. (Low),—*On the Pursuit of Truth*, by A. E. Finch, (Longmans),—*Results of an Experimental Enquiry into the Mechanical Properties of Steel manufactured by Christian Aspelin*, by D. Kirkaldy (Testing and Experimenting Works),—*Thinkers and Thinking*, by J. E. Garretson, M.D. (Trübner),—*and Little Triz; or, Grandmamma's Lessons* (Edinburgh, Edmonston & Douglas). Among New Editions we have *Sampson's Handbook for the City of York* (York, Sampson),—*The Poetical Works of Samuel Taylor Coleridge*, edited by W. B. Scott (Routledge),—*Haydn's Dictionary of Dates*, by B. Vincent, (Moxon),—*and Columbus, an Historical Play*, by E. Rose (Wilson). Also the following Pamphlets: *Nucipruna*, by the Rev. H.



Snow, M.A. (Simpkin).—*Milk, Typhoid Fever, and Sewage*, by A. Smee (Collingridge).—*Count Rumford*, by T. L. Nichols, M.D. (Longmans).—*A Scamper across Europe*, by T. L. Nichols, M.D. (Longmans).—*The History of France*, by M. Guizot, translated by R. Black, M.A. (Low).—*Law of Husband and Wife*, by Philo-Familias (Allen).—*Modern Infantry Tactics*, by Major-General P. L. Macdougall (Stanford).—*Convention for Prisoners of War*, by H. Dunant (Army and Navy Library).—*Toulon*, by an English Resident (Trübner).—*The Organ, Hints on its Construction, Purchase, and Preservation*, by W. Shepherdson (Reeves & Turner).—*Equality*, a Satirical Poem (Liverpool, Marples).—*Church and State*, by W. W. English, M.A. (Longmans).—*Babylon the Great*, being the Eighteenth Chapter of the Revelation distinctly applied to London, by R. Shaw (Edinburgh, MacLaren & Macniven).—*Les Travaux de Paris par l'Impôt sur le Capital*, by Menier (Paris, Plon).—*L'Impôt sur le Capital*, by A. Marteau (Paris, Bureaux de la Revue Universelle).—*Biographie des Sept Députés et des Membres du Conseil Général du Département de Seine-et-Marne*, by A. Paria (Paris, Clément).—and *L'Unité de l'Étalon Monétaire*, by Menier (Paris, Plon).

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

## Theology.

- Cassell's Bible Educator, edited by Rev. E. H. Plumptre Vol. 1, 4to. 6s. cl.  
City of the Lost, 2nd edit. 12mo. 3s. cl.  
Duncan's (J.) Colloquia Peripatetica, 4th edit. 12mo. 3/6 cl.  
Erskine's (J.) Unconditional Freeness of the Gospel, new edit. 3/6 cl.  
Popular Objections to Revealed Truth, cr. 8vo. 3/6 cl.  
Prescott's (G. F.) Hindrances to Spiritual Life, cr. 8vo. 1/6 cl.  
Ramage's (W.) Sermons, cr. 8vo. 6s. cl.  
Shairp's (J. C.) Culture and Religion, 4th edit. 12mo. 3/6 cl.  
Spurgeon's (C. H.) Types and Emblems, cr. 8vo. 3s. cl.  
Vitis Mystica, translated, with Preface, by Rev. W. B. Brownlow. 18mo. 4s. cl.  
Wright's (H.) Watching Servants, and other Sermons, 3/6 cl.

## Poetry.

- Bolton's (R. K.) Obiter, Wayside Verses, 12mo. 3/6 cl.

## History.

- Cooper's (T.) New Biographical Dictionary, 8vo. 12s. cl.  
Skene's (F.) John of Fordun's Chronicle of the Scottish Nation, 2 vols. 8vo. 89s. cl.  
Thackeray's (W. M.) Four Georges, new edit. 12mo. 2/6 cl.

## Geography.

- Handbook for Travellers in Algeria, 12mo. 6s. cl.

## Philology.

- Armitage's French Grammar, for the Use of Public Schools, 1/6  
Grandineau's (F.) Le Petit Précepteur, new edit. 16mo. 3s. cl.  
Heilmann's (A.) Fifty Lessons on the Elements of the German Language, 4th edit. 12mo. 5s. cl.  
Sargent's (J. V.) Easy Passages for Translation into Latin, 3rd edit. 12mo. 2/6 cl.  
Taine's (H. A.) History of English Literature, 4th edit. 2 vols. 8vo. 21s. cl.  
Theocritus's Idylls and Epigrams, with English Notes, by H. Snow, 2nd edit. 12mo. 4/6 cl.

## Science.

- Buckmaster's Inorganic Chemistry, Elementary Part and Advanced Part, 10th edit. 12mo. each 1/6 cl.  
Cobbold's (T. S.) Internal Parasites of our Domesticated Animals, cr. 8vo. 5s. cl.  
Ecker's (Dr. A.) Convulsions of the Human Brain, 8vo. 4/6 cl.  
Handbook of Animal Physics, by Lardner, Part 1, 12mo. 4s. cl.  
swd. (Weale's Series).  
Templeton's (W.) Operative Mechanic's Workshop, new edit. 5s. cl.  
Templeton's (W.) Engineers, &c., Practical Assistant, new edit. 18mo. 2/6 cl.  
Williamson's (A. W.) Chemistry for Students, 3rd edit. 8/6 cl.

## General Literature.

- Ainsworth's (W. H.) Good Old Times, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31/6 cl.  
Aunt Judy's Christmas Volume for 1873, edited by Mrs. Gatty, 8vo. 7/6 cl.  
Beeton's Dictionary of Commerce, 12mo. 1s. swd.  
Bushell's (C.) Rigler's Guide and Seaman's Assistant, 5th edit. 12mo. 3s. cl.  
Cassell's Popular Recreator, Vol. 1, 4to. 6s. cl.  
Comyn's (L. N.) Christian Elliott, 18mo. 1/6 cl.  
Griffith's (C.) Nor Love Nor Lands, 3 vols. cr. 8vo. 31/6 cl.  
Helmore's (M. C.) Luna, a Mere Story, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 21s. cl.  
Jacox's (P.) At Nightfall and Midnight, cr. 8vo. 8/6 cl.  
Kingston's (W. H. G.) Heroic Wife, 18mo. 1/6 cl.  
Lady Bell, by Author of 'Citoyenne Jacqueline,' 3 vols. 31/6 cl.  
Life of a Bear, cr. 8vo. 5s. cl.  
Little Laddie, by Author of 'Little Mother,' roy. 16mo. 5s. cl.  
Little Trix, or Grandmamma's Lessons, 18mo. 1s. bds.  
Military Life in Prussia, by F. E. R. and H. E. R., cr. 8vo. 9s. cl.  
Murphy's Master, and other Stories, cr. 8vo. 2s. bds.  
Nugent's (N.) Amusements of a Man of Fashion, 3 vols. 31/6 cl.  
Origin of Evil, a Celestial Drama, by Ter Tiantthrope, 2/6 cl.  
Stahl's (P. J.) Davis and Dot, their Pranks and Pastimes, 3/6 cl.  
Stahl's (P. J.) Good Little Children, imp. 8vo. 3s. cl.  
Steele's (J.) New Tables for Hay and Straw Dealers, 2nd edit. cr. 8vo. 4s. cl. swd.  
Sunny Side, by H. Truster (Lily Series), 18mo. 1s. swd.  
Verne's (J.) From the Earth to the Moon, cr. 8vo. 10s. cl.  
Verne's (J.) Journey to Centre of the Earth, new edit. 6s. cl.  
Ward's (Mrs. F. M.) Oris Miller, roy. 16mo. 1/6 cl.  
Waverley Novels, Pocket Edition, Vol. 10, 12mo. 1/6 cl.  
Weir's (M. E.) Rockbourne, a Tale, fcap. 6s. cl.  
Wood's (F. H.) Number Eleven, and other Tales, 18mo. 1/6 cl.

## THE BRETON ASSOCIATION.

THE Association Bretonne has resumed its labours after an enforced suspension of fifteen years. Its first meeting took place at Nantes in 1843, and its last, till the other day, at Quimper in 1858. The Society was dissolved, under the pretext that it meddled too much with politics, by a decree of the Minister of the Interior of the 12th of April, 1859. It had held fifteen meetings, which took place in the principal towns in Brittany in succession. The meeting, therefore, which opened at Quimper on the 15th of September, and ended on the 20th, is the sixteenth.

The Association has two sections, one for Agriculture, the other for History. Each section publishes a journal every year it meets. In these journals is to be found a quantity of interesting documents and of papers, usually well written, upon all that concerns *la Bretagne-Armorique*—agriculture, zootechny, archaeology, literature, biography, language, ancient manners and customs. Almost all who have written anything worth mentioning on Brittany during the last thirty years have drawn largely upon these journals, which contain an immense amount of information, usually of a trustworthy character. To enter into details regarding the proceedings of the last meeting would occupy a long time. I shall merely call attention to questions of general interest, such as that numbered fourteen in the programme of the Section of Archaeology, and which runs as follows:—"14. Historical Geography of the Armorican Peninsula in Gaulish and Roman Times."

What are the new data available for these researches? They are, (1) the inscription of the epigraphic mile-stone of Kerscao, which marks the position of Vorganium as being eight or nine thousand paces from the place where the mile-stone stood. There is a dispute about the number; some read VIII., others VIII. (2) The discovery lately announced of a manuscript of the sixth century, in which the name of Corisopitum figures among the stations of the III<sup>d</sup> Lyons Legion.

The mile-stone of Kerscao, which has lately been placed in the Archaeological Museum at Quimper, was one of the chief curiosities of the Congress. It is of red granite, and weighs 2,070 kilogrammes. This mile-stone, which lay at the side of the Roman road from Carhaix to Plouguerneau, was erected in the reign of the Emperor Claudius. The importance of the inscription lies almost entirely in the last line—

VORGAN MF VIII.

which may, perhaps, be interpreted—

VORGAN(IUM) M(ILLIA) R(ASSUM) VIII.

This inscription threw light upon the position of Vorganium, a point in dispute among antiquaries, both Breton and French. This important discovery is due to M. Le Men, Keeper of the Archives of the Department of Finistère, and M. Morvat, of the Artillery, one of our first epigraphists. Unfortunately, the difficulty is not so thoroughly solved as was expected. We know this much. Vorganium was situated eight or nine thousand paces from the mile-stone at Kerscao, which is not far from the beautiful church of Folgoët, on the old Roman road from Carhaix to Plouguerneau. But hitherto no spot has been discovered at eight or nine thousand paces distance which presents Roman remains sufficient to admit of our seeing in them the ruins of the ancient station. However this may be, a great step has been made in advance. Henceforth, it will be impossible to place Vorganium at Carhaix, as most people used to do, or at Brest, as some antiquaries were inclined to do.

A long discussion arose on the question whether Corisopites and Curiosolite were two different places, two different peoples, or one and the same place, one and the same people; and, secondly, where they were situated, if two, or if one. M. Le Men adopts the first opinion, and makes the Curiosolite and the Corisopites one people, and places their capital at Carhaix. Dr. Halléguen, on the contrary, thinks that there were two cities and two peoples; and he would place the capital of the

Curiosolite at Corseult, in the Côtes du Nord, and that of the Corisopites, on the Bay of Douarnenez, in Finistère. He relies on a passage in the anonymous geographer of Ravenna, where Chris, which may be pronounced Keris, is found; and on a passage in a *chanson de geste* of the Middle Ages, in which a town named Méris is mentioned, situated on the Bay of Douarnenez. From Mérisoppidum, Kérisoppidum, one gets easily to Corisopitum. M. de Kerdel and M. de la Borderie rejected both these suggestions. On philological grounds, they considered Curiosolite and Corisopites could not be considered identical. Corseult, in the Côtes du Nord, may, they allowed, very possibly be the same word as Curiosolite, and the Roman mines there support their view, but they refused to agree in placing Corisopitum on the Bay of Douarnenez. I shall now leave the archaeologists, and say a few words about the evening meetings, at which ladies and the general public were present, and where the proceedings were of a more popular character. At the meeting on Tuesday evening, the 16th, the writer of this letter read a paper 'On the Common Origin of all the Popular European Tales, and on the Character of those of Brittany.' In discussing the last point, the writer insisted on the necessity of saving from the oblivion that threatens them the relics that remain of the popular poetry and traditions of Brittany. On this point, I hope to say something more in a future number of the *Athenæum*.

Among the papers read on the other evenings was one by M. de Carné, of the French Academy, 'On the Estates of Brittany'; an extremely interesting communication, by the President of the Archaeological Section, M. Adhémar De Blois, on a popular custom, which exists in a portion of Finistère, of carrying the keys of Saint Ugen as a preservative against hydrophobia. A description, given by M. Sigismond Ropartz, of the *Fratrie Blanche* of Guingamp, a political institution which aimed at uniting the three orders, and promoting unity among the citizens. It existed from the middle of the sixteenth down to the close of the eighteenth century.

M. de la Borderie, deputy of the Ile-et-Vilaine, gave some amusing sketches, after Noël Dufail, Councillor of the Parliament of Brittany, and author of the 'Contes d'Eutrapel,' of the advocates of the sixteenth century. The capital anecdotes which the speaker introduced served to enliven an audience which was a little depressed by several days' discussion of dolmens, menhirs, and other indigestible matters.

Finally the Congress adjourned, to meet again at Vannes next year.

It was fully expected that M. de la Villemarqué would attend the meeting of the Association, of which he was one of the founders, and is one of the glories, and defend his Barzaz Breiz against the attacks made upon it from all quarters. He could not have had a better opportunity. He would have been surrounded by friends, and would have received a cordial welcome from every one. However, he did not attend; and it is to be feared that his persistency in avoiding all opportunities of setting himself right with the public may lead many to draw conclusions unfavourable to him.

F. M. LUZEL.

## MRS. ALFRED GATTY.

THE younger daughter of the Rev. Dr. Scott, Lord Nelson's chaplain, on board the Victory at Trafalgar, has, within this last week, died in her sixty-fourth year, after having for nearly a quarter of a century enjoyed a wide celebrity in the nurseries and school-rooms of England as a writer for children. Margaret Scott, better known by her married title as Mrs. Alfred Gatty, was born in 1809, at her father's rectory of Burnham, in Essex. Thirty years afterwards, in 1839, she became the wife of the Rev. Alfred Gatty, D.D., Vicar of Ecclesfield, near Sheffield, and Sub-Dean of York Cathedral. As the result of that marriage exclusively she appears to have taken to literature. Prior to it, at any rate, she never published anything. While, subsequently, she is known to have

given to the world at least thirty distinct publications. In association with her husband, she brought out, in 1842, 'The Life of Dr. Scott,' her father, already mentioned as something of an historical character. In preparing that memorial-volume, however, she was writing, as it were, tentatively in collaboration. Mrs. Gatty's first independent work appeared from the press in 1851, being a graceful *mélange* of fanciful stories, entitled 'The Fairy Godmothers, and other Tales.' It was most favourably received, being spoken of in our own columns as not unworthy of one who was qualified to follow immediately in the wake of the Danish poet-fabulist, Andersen. In 1855, she followed up this first success with the earliest of the five volumes of her 'Parables from Nature.' The rest followed at uncertain intervals until the fifth series, completing the whole, appeared just two years ago, in 1871. Mrs. Gatty, in 1856, published her 'Worlds not Realized,' and, a year afterwards, her 'Proverbs Illustrated.' Her next production was a tale, issued from the press in 1858, and called 'The Poor Incumbent.' In the same year she laid before her increasing number of readers a volume of 'Legendary Tales,' which were embellished by Phiz. 'The Human Face Divine, and other Tales,' published in 1860, was illustrated, as were several of her subsequent volumes, by the pencil of Miss C. S. Lane. A little over a twelvemonth afterwards Mrs. Gatty brought out, in 1862, the good-humoured record of a holiday excursion in Ireland during the previous autumn, under the whimsical title of 'The Old Folks from Home.' During that same year she edited 'Melchior's Dream'; having done the like good office in 1860, when seeing through the press, that time in association once more with her husband upon the same title-page, 'The Travels and Adventures of Dr. Wolff, the Missionary.' Just ten years ago, in 1863, Mrs. Gatty first brought out, what was reprinted only last year in two quarto volumes, her work on 'British Seaweeds,' the specimens contained in which, by the way, were drawn from Harvey's 'Phycologia Britannica.' A twelvemonth afterwards she translated, in 1864, from the French of Prof. Macé, 'The History of a Bit of Bread.' Mrs. Gatty was, by this time, beginning to extend her reputation as a charmingly humorous writer for the little ones under a fantastic *nom de plume*, under which her real name at the last all but disappeared. 'Aunt Judy's Tales' had been originally published in 1858. 'Aunt Judy's Letters' still further popularized the *sobriquet*. From the latter collection there appeared in a separate form, in 1865, 'Aunt Sally's Life'—the indefatigable writer producing within the last-mentioned twelvemonth, her 'Domestic Pictures and Tales.' In the May of 1866, she began her now well-known monthly organ for children, entitled *Aunt Judy's Magazine*. Selected and reprinted from 'Mission Life,' she passed through the press in 1869, first 'The Children's Mission Army,' and afterwards 'Mission Shillings.' During the year 1870 she penned 'Waifs and Strays in Natural History,' and in 1871 put together 'Aunt Judy's Song-Book for Children.' Three works came from her hand only last year—'A Book of Emblems, with interpretations thereof'; a charming compilation, called 'The Mother's Book of Poetry,' adorned with engravings; and a sort of archaeological monograph, entitled 'The Book of Sundials.' The news of Mrs. Gatty's death will be something like a home-grief in many a nursery, more particularly among the youthful readers of *Aunt Judy's Magazine*.

#### Literary Gossip.

A NEW work may shortly be expected from the pen of Sir Henry Maine. It is called 'The Early History of Institutions, more particularly as illustrated by the Irish Brehon Law,' and will be published by Mr. Murray.

LORD COLCHESTER is editing a volume, to be published by Messrs. Bentley, which gives

the history of the Indian Administration of Lord Ellenborough, in his correspondence with the Duke of Wellington. To it will be prefixed, by permission of Her Majesty, Lord Ellenborough's letters to the Queen during the Afghan War.

THE minor writings of Mr. Grote, the publication of which Mr. Murray announced some time ago, are to be edited by Prof. Bain, of Aberdeen, who will append to them critical remarks on Mr. Grote's intellectual character, writings, and speeches.

MR. E. B. DE FONBLANQUE is preparing a Memoir of Albany Fonblanque: along with it will be printed the contributions of the deceased to the *Examiner* as well as other writings by him. The volume will be published by Messrs. Bentley.

A FEW weeks since we had occasion to notice a discovery by Mr. Halliwell which throws new light on the history of Shakespeare. We hear that another discovery, of a highly interesting nature, in connexion with the great poet, has recently been made by Mr. Staunton.

Two new books about Japan will be issued in the coming season. One of them, to be published by Mr. Murray, is by Mr. S. Mossman, author of 'China: its History, Inhabitants, &c.,' and is called 'New Japan, the Land of the Rising Sun: its Annals during the past Twenty Years, recording the Remarkable Progress of the Japanese in Western Civilization.' The other is a translation, by Mrs. Cashel Hoey, of 'Japan and the Japanese,' by M. Aimé Humbert, the Swiss Envoy. It is illustrated by drawings by Italian and French artists, and sketches from photographs. The publishers are Messrs. Bentley.

THE admirers of Miss Florence Montgomery will be glad to hear that Messrs. Bentley have in the press a new story by her, 'Thwarted; or, Ducks' Eggs in a Hen's Nest.' Among the other announcements of the firm are, 'Teresina Peregrina: a Journey round the World,' by Theresa Yelverton, Lady Avonmore; 'French Society from the Fronde to the Great Revolution,' by Mr. H. B. Baker; 'Anecdote Lives of the Later Wits and Humourists': Canning, Captain Morris, Curran, Coleridge, Lamb, Charles Mathews, Talleyrand, Jerrold, Albert Smith, Rogers, Hood, Thackeray, Dickens, Poole, Leigh Hunt, &c., by Mr. John Timbs; and 'Bye-Gone Days in Devonshire and Cornwall,' by Mrs. Whitcombe.

MR. MURRAY is preparing an addition to his well-known Handbooks, in the shape of a 'European Handbook for Travellers: a Condensed Guide to the Chief Routes and most Important Places on the Continent.' It will be in one volume. Among educational works, the same publisher promises 'The French Principia: a First French Course, containing Grammar, Delectus, Exercises, and Vocabulary,' on the plan of Dr. William Smith's 'Principia Latina.'

MRS. CHISHOLM is engaged on a children's book, of which Mr. Murray will be the publisher, 'Perils in the Polar Seas: Stories of Arctic Adventure, told by a Mother to her Children.'

MESSRS. BENTLEY promise a translation, by Mr. J. B. Brockley, of M. Villemain's 'Life of Gregory the Seventh.' The manuscript of

this work was left complete at the author's death; before the first siege of Paris it was removed for safe keeping to Angers; at the capitulation it was brought back to the capital, and housed in the Rue de Lille, where it narrowly escaped the flames kindled by the Commune, the next house being burnt to the ground.

THE title of Mr. Borrow's new book, which we mentioned some time ago, will be 'Romano Lavo-Lil: Word-Book of the Romany, or English Gipsy Language.' It will contain many pieces in Gipsy illustrative of the way of speaking and thinking of the English Gipsies, specimens of their poetry, and an account of certain Gipsyries, or places inhabited by them, and of various things pertaining to Gipsy life in England.

MR. J. W. HALES has been fortunate enough to secure for his forthcoming edition of the 'Areopagitica,' for the Clarendon Press, a correction, which is most likely in Milton's own hand, of an important word in his famous tractate. Among George the Third's books in the British Museum, in one of the volumes of the famous Thomason Collection, labelled "Collection of Pamphlets, 1644," is a copy of the 'Areopagitica,' with *Ex dono Authoris*, and the date, "Nouemb<sup>r</sup> 24," both on the title-page, in Thomason's well-known hand. On p. 12, line 8 from foot,—in a different ink from Thomason's, and with a different form of letter—is the correction referred to, the *y* of "wayfaring Christian" struck out, and overwritten *r*, a correction which the context at once proves to be right, and which there can be little doubt that Milton himself made before presenting this copy to Thomason, for it is the only one in the pamphlet: "He that can apprehend and consider vice with all her baits and seeming pleasures, and yet abstain, and yet distinguish, and yet prefer that which is truly better, he is the true warfaring Christian. I cannot praise a fugitive and cloister'd virtue, unexercis'd and unbreath'd, that never sallies out and sees her adversary, but slinks out of the race, where that immortal garland is to be run for, not without dust and heat." Those editors of Milton who had made the correction by dint of their own critical skill are now confirmed by the author himself.

IN consequence of the vote passed at the International Congress of Orientalists, recently held in Paris, the Congress of 1874 will be held in London, and a Committee of Management, consisting of the following members, has been formed to make the necessary arrangements: President, S. Birch, LL.D.; Members, Joseph Bonomi, M. E. de Bunsen, Canon Calloway, R. Cull, M. Daly, Prof. Donaldson, S. M. Drach, Dr. Eggeeling, Col. Seton Guthrie, R.E., John Henderson, Sir Henry Rawlinson, K.C.B., Rev. J. M. Rodwell, R. Rost, Ph.D., W. Simpson, George Smith, E. Thomas, W. S. W. Vaux, John Williams; Hon. Secretaries, Messrs. Robert K. Douglas, P. le Page Renouf, and W. R. Cooper. The subscription is fixed at 12 francs, or half-a-guinea, and all subscribers will be entitled to the volume of *Proceedings*. The programme provides for six evening sittings and eight morning reunions. All communications on the subject of the Congress should be addressed to Mr. Robert K. Douglas, British Museum, London; and those interested in Oriental studies, who may be desirous of



joining the Congress, are requested to inform him of their intention as soon as possible.

THE Manchester Literary Club have just held their annual meeting, the members dining together at the Mitre Hotel, Manchester, Mr. Chattwood, the President of the Society, occupying the chair. It was stated that the glossary of the Archaic words of Lancashire folk-speech was progressing satisfactorily, and that a considerable amount of money had been contributed towards the current expenses. Progress in the work has been made as far as letter D.

A HISTORY of the county of Cumberland is in progress under the editorship of Mr. R. S. Ferguson, of Carlisle, who is the editor of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian Society's *Transactions* and the author of several works of local interest. Mr. Ferguson has for some time been engaged in collecting materials for a new history of the county, and we are told that he is qualified for the task which he has undertaken. Hutchinson's History, a copy of which, annotated by the Rev. Jonathan Boucher, who was vicar of Epsom in 1802, is in Mr. Ferguson's possession, and this will, we understand, form the basis of the new history.

THE Chaucer Society renews its appeal for help in preparing the Concordance to Chaucer's Works, which is in progress. The former appeal resulted in securing workers at all the Canterbury Tales, except the Wife's, Friar's, Summoner's, Second Nun's, and Canon's Yeoman's (the six-text of the Parson's is not yet out). Any reader willing to volunteer for work at any one or more of these Tales, the prose 'Astrolabe,' or Part I. of the 'Minor Poems,' should apply for instructions and text to the Director of the Society, Mr. F. J. Furnivall, 3, St. George's Square, Primrose Hill, London, N.W.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—

"In an article in a morning paper on Mr. Longfellow's new volume of poems, 'Aftermath,' the reviewer selected for quotation and special praise, as the finest thing in the volume, the ballad headed 'The Musician's Tale.' He is evidently unaware that the ballad is not an original work of Mr. Longfellow, but translated by him from the Danish, or that a translation by Mr. Robert Jamieson, from the original in Sofrensen's 'Kjempe Viser,' was printed by Sir Walter Scott in the notes to the fourth canto of 'The Lady of the Lake,' under the title of 'The Ghost's Warning.' Mr. Longfellow himself, in the introduction to the Danish section of his 'Poets and Poetry of Europe,' incidentally alludes to the ballad. Perhaps the original American edition of 'Aftermath' contains a preface or note pointing out that the poem is from the Danish."

MR. H. VAN LAUN, the translator of M. Taine's 'History of English Literature,' is engaged on a version of Molière, which will be illustrated with thirty original etchings by foreign artists.

DR. HOSMER, who has for the last three years been the London representative of the *New York Herald*, returns to America in the Scotia, which sails from Liverpool to-day. His successor is Mr. Edmund Yates.

WE learn from Madrid that Don Antonio Trueba has in the press a volume of verse, entitled 'El Paraiso Moderno' ('The Modern Paradise'). The Madrid wits ask to be directed to this Paradise, and suggest that it must be out of Spain.

THE first sheets of Mr. W. Aldis Wright's edition, for the Early English Text Society, of the romance of 'Sir Gonerides,' from the unique MS. in Trinity College, Cambridge, have just left the printer's hands. The romance is in 7-line stanzas, and is said to be pleasant reading; but its rhymes will shock the theorists, as it neglects the final *e* in a most encouraging way,—rhymes *day, way*, with "to *saye*," was with "space," &c.,—and illustrates the theoretical rule that the Early English *ay* was sounded like the German *ai*, by practically rhyming "waye, me, traye" together.

THE article in the *British Quarterly* on Dr. Hayman's edition of the *Odyssey* is, it is said, from the pen of Mr. F. A. Paley.

MR. J. J. THOMAS, of Port of Spain, Trinidad, the author of the *Creole Grammar* noticed in our columns some years back, is now in England. Mr. Thomas has, like so many of his fellow Creoles, raised himself, in spite of obstacles, to a good position in his native country.

M. HECTOR DE LA FERRIÈRE has published, under the title 'La Normandie à l'étranger' (Rouen, Méterrie), a collection of documents *inédits* which he discovered in the Public Records of England, Austria, Italy, and Russia. They include very important despatches, chiefly found in the British Museum and Record Office, from Anton of Bourbon, King of Navarre, Jean de Ferrières, Jean de Lafin, Charles the Ninth, Admiral Coligny, Queen Elizabeth, Catherine de Medicis, Mary Stuart, Henri IV., &c.

FROM Bayonne is announced, under the title 'Les Proverbes de Voltaire,' the reprint of a new collection of proverbs in the Basque language, quite different and anterior to the 'Proverbes Basques,' collected by Arnaud d'Oihenart (Paris, 1657), reprinted in 1847.

## SCIENCE

### SOCIAL SCIENCE CONGRESS.

THE Social Science Congress, having survived the attack made upon it by its President, Lord Houghton, on the opening night, brought its proceedings to a close last Wednesday, when, at the concluding meeting, it was resolved to hold the next annual Congress at Glasgow, with a prospect of visiting Brighton the year after. In the period embraced between these two dates, a vast quantity of such business as this Association usually transacts has been brought to the issue of debate, if not always to an issue in it, and many extra columns of type thereby added to the Norwich newspapers, and much extra information on social subjects diffused (it is to be hoped) amongst the people. It is the practice of this Congress to divide the subjects which it professes to investigate under four principal headings; and as the practice is, for the purposes of criticism, an eminently convenient one, we shall avail ourselves of it here for the few observations which we may feel inclined to make. The four departments of speculation are: Jurisprudence, Education, Health, and Economics; the first being usually subdivided into Amendment of Law and Repression of Crime, the last, sometimes, into Economy and Trade.

#### Amendment of Law.

Two principal subjects of legal reform have recently much exercised the public mind. The first, the establishment of the Supreme Court of Judicature; the second, the Juries Bill, which is yet in course of progress through Parliament. It was natural, then, that these two subjects should

claim special attention at Norwich, and they have done so. On the first day of the Congress, Dr. Andrew Edgar, read an admirable paper on the first question, and Mr. Joseph Brown, Q.C., who presided over the Jurisprudence Department, gave it much prominence in his address. In the opinion of the latter gentleman, this measure almost amounts to a legal revolution. "The two grand obstacles which so long stood in the way of all law reform—the dread of revolution and the superstitious worship of the ancient law as the perfection of reason—have ceased to bar our progress towards a system adapted to the immensely altered state of society and of commerce in which we live." The great advance alluded to is, of course, the fusion of law and equity which this measure has practically accomplished. Dr. Edgar's paper above quoted was, accordingly, chiefly directed to pointing out the advantages of this fusion in detail, and was much admired. The subject of the Jury Laws was also introduced by the President in his address, and a special paper on it was afterwards read by Dr. C. W. Ryalls, General Secretary of the Association.

Another subject of discussion which, after these, principally occupied the attention of the Section, was that of the Law relating to Agricultural Tenancies, introduced by Mr. James Howard, M.P. Quite a small cluster of Members of Parliament and county magnates assembled to hear this discussion, including Mr. Clare Read, M.P., and Mr. Heron, M.P., both of whom joined in it, Lord Houghton, Lord Stafford, Sir Harry Verney, M.P., Sir Francis Boileau, Mr. Colman, M.P., and others. The tone of the discussion was generally favourable to Mr. Howard's paper, which again was in some measure an explanation and defence of the Bill introduced into Parliament last year by him, in conjunction with Mr. Clare Read, and the avowed object of which is to attract more capital to the land.

Many other subjects of juridical interest came under the attention of this Section for discussion, and its proceedings were generally discursive. Amongst the more notable papers we may mention, 'Church Patronage: its Historical, Legal, and Social Aspects,' by Alfred Waddilove, D.C.L.; one 'On the Question of Agricultural Labourers,' by the Rev. E. L. Blackman; 'On International Arbitration,' being the prize essay of the Workman's Peace Society, by F. A. Soutter; and one by Sir Willoughby Jones, Bart., 'On the Administration of Justice in Quarter and Petty Sessions.' On Tuesday, Mr. David Dudley Field, of New York, explained to a large audience the general scope and design of his "International Code."

#### Repression of Crime.

Prison Discipline and the Punishment of Juvenile Offenders were the two themes which almost exclusively occupied the attention of this Section throughout the week. Of the first, the great question of remunerative prison labour was the principal subject under discussion; of the second, the propriety of corporeal punishment was the chief matter in debate. Is it desirable that the labour of prisoners should be productive or not?—Is it desirable that young offenders against the laws should be whipped or should be incarcerated? Mr. Hastings, in an address delivered as Chairman of the Council, but dealing exclusively with the subjects treated of in this Section, seems to us to have put the former matter in its best and clearest light. There are two aspects, he said, in which it should be viewed: first, with respect to its effect on the criminal, and next, with respect to its effect on productive industry outside the prison. Now, "those who think that the sole objects of prison management are cheapness of cost and reformation of the individual prisoner, naturally disregard all other considerations"; but "the first object of a prison is neither to be cheap in its management nor to be reformatory in its influences," but to be "empty." If by rendering imprisonment in a jail an exceedingly irksome confinement, you can "deter a prisoner from relapsing into crime, you



have effected the best thing possible both for him and for the public." Hence, the imposition of disagreeable labour, merely because it is disagreeable labour, is often the cheapest and most charitable course to pursue, notwithstanding the apparent paradox. On the other hand, the objections raised to the industrial employment of prisoners, "by some prominent members of the weekly wage class," are unreasonable. Mr. Hastings instanced the case of the manufacture of cocoa-nut fibre matting. This trade had its origin in prison labour. After a while, when it was seen to be remunerative, private manufacturers entered into it; "it was not prison labour which interfered with private enterprise, but private enterprise which voluntarily entered into competition with prison labour." If the principle of the complaint against this occupation were pushed to its legitimate conclusion in practice, prisoners would not only be precluded from carrying on trades which were established and known, but from inventing others, to the manifest loss of the community in every respect. Moreover, how can a population of 20,000 persons, "which is the maximum amount of the daily average in our county and borough prisons throughout England and Wales," affect materially "the labour-market of a nation of more than 20,000,000"? In a similar strain spoke Mr. O'Malley, Q.C., who acted as President of this sub-section. "The first object of our criminal law," he said, "is the protection of society, and this by making it felt by the criminal, and known by those who are exposed to temptation, that suffering is the certain consequence of crime." On the other hand, Mr. F. J. Mout, M.D., C.B., who read a paper on Saturday, 'On Prison Industry, the Formation of Prison Discipline, and Reformation of Criminals,' urged the well-known reformatory arguments, and gave an opportunity for the whole question to be re-discussed. The solution seems to lie, as the solution of most social problems is commonly found to do, somewhere between the two extremes. It is perfectly true that industrial prison labour is cheaper to the State in the first instance than mere penal labour, and that the one fits, while the other tends to unfit, a prisoner for honourable employment on his release. But if it is also true that its deterrent effect is not so great, that more re-commitments occur under this system than under the other, then it may in the end be very much the dearer system, and probably is so. On the whole, Mr. Hastings's conclusion seems to be just, that it is desirable the visiting justices should have more power in deciding on the merits of individual cases than the recent Prisons' Act allows them.

With respect to the punishment of juvenile offenders, there are notoriously two schools of thought, both of which were well represented at this Congress. On the one side are those who are, on principle, opposed to all corporal punishment, on the other side, those who consider it a useful and applicable means of obtaining the end in view. Between these two there is a large and increasing body of opinion favourable to retaining the punishment for exceptional cases, and with proper safeguards, but against its general and indiscriminate application. It is rather remarkable, that many who are most widely known for their philanthropic interest in criminals and jails—Miss Carpenter, Mr. Barwick Baker, Sir Walter Crofton, and others—are the most opposed to entirely doing away with the punishment of the rod, and their opinion is entitled to the greatest consideration. We cannot, however, agree to a suggestion which seemed to be received with great favour at Norwich, that offending youngsters should be formally passed over to their parents for punishment. Such a proceeding would be nothing less than a distinct abrogation of the very first principles of criminal jurisprudence, and might easily be productive of the very gravest evils in practice.

#### Education.

The address of Prof. Hodgson in the Education Section, which had been looked forward to with

so much interest, fully realized the anticipations which had been formed of it. Sparkling with witty and with weighty sayings, fresh, vigorous, and most happily conceived in tone throughout, it was a fine specimen of what an address at once scientific and practical should be, and more than deserved the high encomiums which Lord Houghton passed upon it at its conclusion. Dr. Hodgson has been so long and so favourably known as a labourer in this fertile field, that his deliberate and matured utterances on the present position of affairs are entitled to the greatest respect. It is interesting to know, then, that Dr. Hodgson now considers "the subject of education, if not more extensive, at least more complex, and proportionately more difficult of treatment, than ever." The restrictions which still stand in its way are, first, distinctions of social rank; second, of professional calling; and third, of sex. Against each and all of these restrictions Dr. Hodgson calls upon us to wage unceasing war. Of the ideal of education he has a high notion. "Education, even in its narrower sense, of school-training, ought to aim at fitting and preparing for the discharge of the various duties of the coming life"; and the very popular fancy that reading, writing, and arithmetic, form by far the most important part of it, he disposes of in the following eloquent passage:—"A mind trained to observe nature, animate and inanimate, to watch ordinary social arrangements, to classify what it has observed, to trace the relation of cause and effect, to reflect on consequences of different kinds of action, to guide its conduct accordingly, to forego immediate enjoyment for the greater good to oneself and to others, may be produced without reading or writing, and is a far nobler product of education than the mere power to read and write, however neat the penmanship, or correct the pronunciation, or perfect the spelling." This address was listened to with marked favour, and was the most interesting feature of the Congress.

Of the proceedings of the Department in detail, we are happy to be able to say that they were consistently commendable and useful. As has occurred of late years, since the abolition of the exclusive Female Conference, they were largely shared in by ladies, and some of the most able papers supplied for discussion were contributed by them. Thus the paper by Mrs. Grey, 'On the Organization of Lectures for Women,' and by Miss Dorothea Beale, 'On the Organization of Girls' Schools,' were among the best of the meeting. Miss Jex Blake also was the author of an exhaustive one on the subject of Women Doctors, which was discussed in a generally favourable tone. Other subjects of discussion were the Competitive Examination System, and "the best means of bringing education to the hitherto untouched masses of the population." On this last subject, Miss Carpenter and the Rev. Brooke Lambert were the essayists, and a rather singular difference of opinion was developed; for whilst the one proposed to feed them as an inducement to attend school, the other proposed to clothe them, both suggestions being of a sufficiently novel character, it must be confessed. The discussion on competitive examination resulted in a general concurrence of opinion against the universal application of that principle.

Not the least agreeable feature in the proceedings here was the presence at many of the discussions of some Hindoo gentlemen, who not only showed an intelligent interest in the debates, but also constantly took part in them, speaking with an ability and fluency that was very marked. One of them contributed a paper 'On Public Education in India,' which contained many interesting facts. The Bishop of Norwich was also a frequent visitor at this Section, which was decidedly the best attended throughout. Some voluntary papers of general interest were—'On Commercial Education,' by John Yeats, LL.D.; 'Female Inspectors,' by Miss Coates; 'The Education of the Blind,' by Commander Dawson, R.N.; and 'The Unsatisfactory Results of our Primary Instruction,' by Joseph Payne.

#### Health.

"The Policy of Sewage" is evidently in high favour amongst the lights of the Social Science Association, and was the occasion of an uncommonly warm discussion in this Section on Friday, the principal participants in which were Mr. Alfred Smea, M.D., Mr. Peter Eade, M.D., Mr. Charles Thwaites, Dr. Holland, Dr. Carpenter, and Mr. William Hope, V.C. Into the merits of this discussion we are not prepared to go, but for the advantage of some of the gentlemen who took part in it, as well as for that of future Social Science Congresses, we beg to quote a few lines from the works of a modern popular poet, with whom—

We hold it is not decent for a scientific gent  
To call another one an Ass, at least to all intent;  
Nor should the individual who happens to be meant,  
Reply by heaving bricks at him—to any great extent!—

and to commend them to their notice. On the occasion alluded to, several rhetorical bricks were thrown, with an effect not, on the whole, edifying.

Doubtless the matter of most interest in this Section was the address of the President, Mr. Douglas Galton. This was, for the most part, eminently practical and statistical, and, consequently, not so generally interesting as if it had been conceived in more popular terms. On the other hand, it was a really scientific discourse, and so the most fitted for the part in the proceedings which it had to fill. There are two aspects in Capt. Douglas Galton's opinion in which the sanitary question may be considered: the one, the scientific; the other, the practical. The army has long afforded the best school of teaching for the second of these, and from this source, therefore, he derived the bulk of his statistics. These were grouped together principally to prove the evils arising from overcrowding in dwellings, from defective ventilation, and from the presence of putrefying organic matter, and the possibility of mitigating or overcoming all these evils by intelligent exertion directed against their origin. This had been done to a great extent in the new hospitals and barracks which now housed our troops, and might be done equally successfully for the rest of the population. But "every step in sanitary improvement means the expenditure of money," and without this essential requisite the best schemes of thinking men were but empty thoughts and empty words. A vast amount of preventable disease existed in the country, and, so long as it did so, "we must not delude ourselves with the idea that we have done more than touch the borders of sanitary improvement." The address was favourably received by a not very numerous audience.

Some good papers were also read in this Section during the week, by J. S. Holden, M.D., 'On the Radical Prevention of Disease'; Charles Shrimpton, M.D., 'On Cholera'; W. Hardwicke, M.D., 'Outbreak of Typhoid Fever from Milk'; and Baldwin Latham, C.E., and Stevenson MacAdam, Ph.D., F.R.C.S., 'On Water Supply.' We should not omit either an able one by Mr. W. Hope, V.C., 'On Eccentricities of Sanitary Legislation.'

#### Economy and Trade.

The Economy and Trade Section is notorious in Social Science Congresses for being at once the most elastic and comprehensive in theory, and the least elastic and comprehensive in practice of all the Sections. A large number of papers are contributed to this Department which, under no conceivable circumstances, can ever be read and properly discussed, and which are commonly set down in the programme and postponed from day to day, the hapless author being commonly in attendance the while. At the last a rush is generally made to divide the Department, and one-half of it opens a session of its own in some new and unfamiliar locality, where a process analogous to the parliamentary one of "the massacre of the innocents" is peacefully performed. It is difficult to assign any sufficient cause for this curious custom, or to see why this Section, like that of Jurisprudence, should not be divided from the first. Indeed, its very name implies, while that of the other

does not imply, that the desirability of some such arrangement has been recognized, and experience proves it to be the case. Yet, with a singular perversity, Amendment of the Law and Repression of Crime occupy their separate arenas of discussion from the first, whilst Economy and Trade maintain a sort of dual existence till towards the end of the Congress, when they are violently thrust apart, and cast as *disjecta membra* upon the world of debate, then rapidly hurrying to its close. Either so many papers should not be accepted in this Section at all, or those accepted should be given fair opportunity of discussion, by being provided for from the outset.

Much interest attached to the address of Mr. Brassey, as President of this Department. That address has now been before the public for some days, and we have not the space, even if we had the inclination, to enter upon a review of it. We shall not, therefore, do so. Like most of the other addresses pronounced at this meeting, it had extremely little to do with Social Science, or any other science at all, and was principally an essay on the Labour Question of the day, that is to say, on the question of how far our national prosperity is likely to be affected by the steadily maintained rise of wages of the last few years, and the greater consequent prosperity of the labouring class. It would be doing but little justice, however, to the author of 'Work and Wages' not to bestow a word of commendation on the liberal and impartial tone which generally characterized his review of recent movements of the labouring class, especially the co-operative movement amongst producers. It is pleasant, also, to be assured on such good authority that our skilled workmen are still, individually, worth two of any other country, and to hear such re-assuring accounts of our iron and coal supplies. Mr. Brassey, in theatrical phrase, "brought down the house" in his remarks on economy of fuel, though he somewhat injured the pleasant impression thus created on his audience when he assured them afterwards that we must not expect ever again to obtain our coal for household purposes at anything like the price to which some years ago we were accustomed. On another question of the day, that of the employment of married women in factories, Mr. Brassey seemed in favour of some further restriction of labour, a proposition which was opposed by Mr. Cooke Taylor in a paper on the subject read immediately after. Next to Dr. Hodgson's admirable address on Education, we are certainly inclined to rank Mr. Brassey's as the most agreeable feature of the meeting.

The impossibility of passing in review the large mass of generally thoughtful matter contributed to this Section for discussion, or of even indicating, with anything like critical nicety, its salient points, must excuse us from entering upon the task; and we will merely say, in conclusion of these remarks, that the Norwich Congress of the Social Science Association was confessedly an agreeable and successful one in a very high degree.

#### ATOMS.

Chemical Laboratory, St. Mary's Hospital, Oct. 7, 1873.

OWING to absence from town, I have only just become acquainted with your article on the Bradford Meeting of the British Association (No. 2395, p. 359), in reference to which I would crave your indulgence for the following remarks.

In that article you have done me the honour of singling me out (not in the most tasteful manner, perhaps, but that is a matter of opinion) as the representative of a school of chemists, which numbers amongst its adherents many well-known names (as an example of which may be mentioned Sir Benjamin Brodie); the members of this school, though differing amongst themselves on certain details, yet agree on this main point, that they object to view the experimental facts of chemistry and the allied branches of knowledge, *solely* through the medium of one pre-conceived notion as to the ultimate nature of matter.

Speaking for myself, I fail to see the cogency of the reasons which lead a great number of modern chemists to the impression that matter can only

be viewed as being made up of "atoms" of some sixty-five essentially different kinds; these atoms, when connected together in certain ill-defined ways, constituting the "molecules" of which the innumerable compounds now known are conceived as being made up. I admit willingly that this "atomic hypothesis," if once admitted, is in close accordance with very many physical generalizations (*vide* Maxwell's recent lecture on Molecules); that it gives a clearer explanation of many chemical phenomena than has yet been afforded by any view based on other notions as to the ultimate nature of matter (*e.g.*, the notion that there is but one kind of primordial matter, all so-called elements and compounds being, as it were, allotropic modifications of this matter differing from one another in the amount of energy, latent per unit of mass); and that, directly or indirectly, it has done immense service in extending the bounds of knowledge: but, notwithstanding the assertion of the President of the British Association, that there has not been shown to be "any inconsistency in the atomic theory, nor in the conclusions to which it leads," I yet venture to think that this "atomic hypothesis" is not capable of giving a clear explanation of many chemical phenomena now known to us, and that it is not consistent with other so-called Laws of Nature (*i.e.*, hypotheses that meet every case yet propounded by experiment or predicted beforehand).

To take a single case: there is no hypothesis that better deserves the term "Law of Nature" to be applied to it than Newton's fundamental postulate, that two very small portions of matter (and *ergo*, two atoms) attract one another with a force proportionate to the product of their masses, and inversely proportionate to the square of the distance between them. I fail, however, to see how the motions of molecules amongst themselves in diffusion, expansion, friction, &c., are explained in accordance with Newton's hypothesis; nor do I see how the evolution of definite quantities of heat during chemical reactions (*i.e.*, the transformation of certain amounts of atomic motion into molecular motion), and many other analogous phenomena, are accounted for by this "law of force" regulating the mutual action of atoms on one another. On this point I may be in error; if so, I am open to conviction, and will willingly recant my objection to the atomic hypothesis on this score when it is shown that the same hypothesis which accounts for the motions of celestial bodies will also account for those of ultimate atoms, the existence of such atoms being assumed.

Even then, however, I should still retain the conviction, which I have elsewhere expressed, that in teaching the science of chemistry it is preferable, first, to enumerate the facts in language independent of any hypothesis, and then to enunciate the various hypotheses that have been and are held, showing how far each is in accordance or contradiction with the observed facts; rather than to mix up from the outset one particular hypothesis with the facts, so as finally to impress on the mind the manifestly erroneous conclusion that the facts have no existence apart from the hypothesis that more or less clearly explains them.

The President of the British Association states that the objectors to the atomic theory "are unconsciously guided by it." It may be within the memory of such of your readers as are interested in this matter, that some little controversy on this subject was carried on last year in the pages of the *Philosophical Magazine*. This ceased on my part from a conviction of the uselessness of continuing discussion with an antagonist who persistently ignored the main point at issue, *viz.*, the distinction between the meaning attached to the phrase "atomic theory" by Dr. Williamson and his disciples, and that applied to the term "atomic hypothesis" by myself; the former phrase being employed to indicate not merely what is commonly understood as a hypothesis, but also to connote a large number of purely experimental generalizations wholly distinct from the hypothesis propounded to

account for them. That the atomic hypothesis (as these words are understood by the majority of chemists) is in any way whatever, consciously or unconsciously, involved of necessity in the calculation (from experimental data and arbitrary conventions) of a formula (*i.e.*, a set of symbols indicating in brief certain physical and chemical properties and re-actions), is a point that I am wholly unable to see; but, on the other hand, the following quotations (samples of many that might be given as illustrations) demonstrate to my thinking that the habit of mixing up the known and the unknown by using defective language which embodies both forms of idea when the former only should be referred to, is productive of contradictory statements and of unphilosophical modes of thought.

"The so-called Law of Multiple Proportions has no existence apart from the Atomic Theory." (Williamson, *Chem. Soc. Journal*, 1869, p. 339.)

"The Law of Multiple Proportions, being founded on experimental facts, stands as a fixed bulwark of the science, which must for ever remain true; whereas the Atomic Theory, by which we now explain this great law, may possibly in time give place to one more perfectly suited to the explanation of new facts." (Roscoe, 'Elementary Chemistry,' 1st edition, p. 54.)

"This important law (of multiple proportions) which was first clearly established by Dalton, was explained by him by means of his atomic theory." (Miller, 'Elements of Chemistry,' vol. i., p. 15, 1st edition.)

"The atomic theory . . . is the very life of chemistry." (Williamson, *loc. cit.*, p. 365.)

Sir Benjamin Brodie "agreed with Dr. Odling when he said that the science of chemistry did not require or prove the atomic theory." (*Ibid.*, p. 440.)

It is scarcely necessary to point out that the statements of Dr. Williamson are diametrically opposed to the juxtaposed quotations; that the first statement is in opposition to the opinion of most other chemists; and that these discrepancies arise from the abnormal meaning attached to the term "atomic theory" by Dr. Williamson.

For the reasons above stated, I have no wish to re-open a controversy on this subject; but the way in which my name is referred to in the article alluded to, causes me to request space for the insertion of the foregoing remarks, so as to correct any possible misapprehension as to the effect of the eloquent presidential address at Bradford on the opinions of those who object to view facts *solely* through the medium of preconceived notions, no matter how attractive or how useful when judiciously employed.

CHARLES R. A. WRIGHT, D.Sc.

COUNT F. DAL VERME.

Trieste, September, 1873.

WILL you kindly allow me space to notice a sad event just reported from Eastern Africa? It may suggest to future explorers a greater measure of prudence than is usually recommended to them by cabinet geographers.

At the end of last May I received a visit from the Count Ferdinand dal Verme, the son of a noble Milanese house. Devoted to engineering studies, he became Director of a Russian Copper-Mining Company in the Urals, at the early age of twenty-five. His noble ambition was to "plant a lance in South Africa," where the Italian nation, the greatest travellers of the Middle Ages, has not yet been adequately represented. In vain his family urged him to follow some less perilous career: he had that passion for exploration which does not listen to reason. During a day at Trieste, I offered him the few suggestions of an old traveller, and inspected his instruments, some of which were designed by himself. His frank and open countenance won my heart, whilst his twenty-seven years and his fine stalwart frame, strong in vitality and energy, made me hope the best for him.

Arrived at Zanzibar, his desire to be "up and doing" made him disregard Dr. Kirk's sensible advice to await the acclimatizing fever in the island. He crossed the channel to the Kingani river, and the



coast climate got the better of him. He returned to Zanzibar, where, after weathering the first attack of three days, he succumbed on the second day to a relapse. His mourning family—father, brothers, and sisters—have only the sad satisfaction of knowing that a French missionary-priest administered to him the last consolations of his faith.

RICHARD F. BURTON.

SOCIETIES.

**MICROSCOPICAL.**—Oct. 1.—C. Brooke, Esq., President, in the chair.—Mr. N. H. Martin was elected a Fellow.—A paper, by Dr. Maddox, was read by the Secretary, descriptive of an organism found in a pond of fresh water in the New Forest, near Lyndhurst, and which it was proposed to name *Pseudo-ameba Violacea*. The general appearance of the organism was minutely described and figured, and the results of a series of continuous observations upon a "growing slide" under the microscope were detailed.—A paper by Mr. F. Kitton, describing some new species of diatoms, was taken as read, and the attention of the meeting was called by the President to one of great beauty, named by Mr. Kitton *Aulacodiscus superbus*.—Mr. F. H. Wenham made some observations upon the microscopical appearance of glass which had been subjected to the action of the American sand-blast process, showing that the erosion of the surface was entirely due to the percussive force of the particles of sand, and that the results of this were demonstrated by the polariscope. A number of specimens were exhibited in the room.—Mr. C. Stewart also exhibited under the microscope and minutely described a beautiful preparation of the spermatophores of the common squid; he also explained and illustrated the general structure of the generative organs of the male cuttle-fish.

Science Gossip.

MR. MURRAY's scientific announcements comprise a volume on 'The Moon, considered as a Planet, a World, and a Satellite,' by James Nasmyth, C.E., and James Carpenter, F.R.A.S., late of the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, and a new edition of Prof. Phillips's work on 'The Geology of Yorkshire.'

PROF. REILLY, the Professor of Engineering at the Indian Civil Engineers College at Cooper's Hill, has in the press a treatise on his branch of science.

'AN OUTLINE STUDY OF MAN; or, the Body and Mind in one System,' is the title of a work by Mark Hopkins, D.D. LL.D., which has just appeared in the United States, and shortly to be published in this country by Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton.

A CORRESPONDENT suggests that an organizing officer should be sent in advance of the meetings to form a local museum for the meetings of the British Association. At Bradford it was not known for some time that the museum of the Philosophical Society was open; and some curious collections of weapons were displayed in an upper sky gallery at the *soirée* for one night, which very few knew of, and fewer still saw. In the Anthropological Section, many interesting objects, including the South Sea collection and numerous drawings, were exhibited to those who had the good chance to hear the papers, and were then put out of sight.

A MEMBER of the British Association, commenting on our suggestions for reform, agrees with us that reform is required, but fears that an alteration might take the shape of more exclusively favouring cliques. By some course of manipulation, the Section of Statistics has, he says, for some years been placed under the influence of the strong-minded women, as the arena for their display. This necessarily results in a process of "selection," which is not strictly scientific in its methods and results.

We have received the *Bulletin de la Société Géologique de France*. One number is devoted to a record of the 'Réunion Extraordinaire à Digne

(Basses-Alpes); from the 8th to the 18th Sept., 1872, and contains many communications of much geological interest. In the second part of the new series is a valuable paper, by M. Th. Ébray, on the 'Constitution Géologique des Terrains traversés par le Chemin de Fer de Chapeauroux à Alais.'

THE screw-steamer *Diana*, chartered for a Polar Expedition by Mr. B. L. Smith, of London, returned to Dundee on Saturday, the 27th ult., having left that port for the Arctic Regions in May last. The expedition never got beyond 81° N., while Mr. Smith, in his expedition of 1871, reached 81° 24' N. He has ascertained that the North Cape is situated on an island separated by a sound from the mainland. Mr. Smith had the great satisfaction of relieving the Swedish Expedition which left Sweden in the summer of 1872, headed by Prof. Nordenskiöld, which he found lying beset in Mosell Bay. This expedition appears to have suffered severely from continuous gales, but much good scientific work has been done. Observations on atmospheric electricity, on the horizontal and vertical forces of the magnetic current, and on the tidal currents, were continuously and successfully carried out. Owing to the unfavourable nature of the ice, little in the way of exploration has been effected by the *Diana*, yet, both geology and natural history have been enriched by Mr. Smith's labours.

THE Geographical Society of France has directed the attention of the Government of Tunis to the condition of the Desert of Sahara, and has asked to have a survey made between the Gulf of Gabes and Lake Faraoun. This arises from a project, brought before the Society by Capt. Boudaire, to create an interior sea in the Desert of Sahara—the bed of the Mel-Rhir, a kind of salt marsh, being 27 mètres below the level of the Mediterranean Sea.

THE *Journal* of the Franklin Institute gives the following as a simple means of determining the presence of organic matter in potable water. A half-pint of the water should be placed in a perfectly clean colourless glass bottle; a few grains of the best white sugar should be added to it, and freely exposed to daylight in the window of a warm room. If the water becomes turbid, sewage contamination may be suspected.

IN the *Journal* of the Franklin Institute for September, 1873, Mr. John M. Mott concludes his papers 'On Lightning and Lightning-rods.' He comes to the following, amongst other conclusions:—"Lightning-rods as usually erected do not afford much protection." "The conducting power of lightning-rods is proportional to their solid contents, and not to their surfaces." "Insulators are of no use in any case." "The rod must be attached directly to the building, the closer the better." "Sharp points for the upper termination of rods are necessary; rods are of but little value without them." These conclusions are, in many respects, so opposed to received ideas, that they require careful examination.

THE *Journal* of the Scottish Meteorological Society for the quarter ending March, 1873, has just been issued. In it we have the first Report of the Committee, formed at the suggestion of the Marquis of Tweeddale, on the Relation of the Herring Fishery to Meteorology. It would appear from this Report that a rise of temperature is coincident with the date of the largest catches of fish, during the fishing season. The Commissioners say, "It is, however, still premature to lay much stress on the striking coincidence of these facts."

FINE ARTS

DORÉ'S GREAT PICTURE OF 'CHRIST LEAVING THE PRETORIUM,' with 'Night of the Crucifixion,' 'Christian Martyrs,' 'Francesca de Rimini,' 'Neophyte,' 'Andromeda,' &c., at the DORÉ GALLERY, 33, New Bond Street. Ten to Six.—Admission, 1s.

THE PRIVATE COLLECTIONS OF ENGLAND.  
No. V.—DURHAM.

FROM Gateshead, we pass through a varied and rich country to the seat of St. Cuthbert, the

most nobly situated city in England. It appears that, to an unusual extent, nature suffices for the inhabitants of Durham, at least they possess few pictures, and, except the cathedral and a demonstrative, although not particularly bad, equestrian statue in the market-place, there is little to prove that the people care for the arts. What has been done to the Cathedral by Wyatt and others, has been, we suppose, effectual in suppressing æsthetic ardour in the city of the beautiful site. Probably, there are paintings and sculptures in many houses of Durham, of which we heard nothing, but diligent inquiry produced the same answer at all times, that Canon Greenwell alone could be called a collector of works of art. This gentleman is universally known in the antiquarian world, and he has been for many years a zealous and efficient custodian of the MSS. in the Cathedral Library, and other treasures which remain in the church and its adjuncts. As to architecture, the finest modern object we saw in Durham is the superb arcade which carries the railway over the high road. Durham is a city with magnificent opportunities for architecture; fortunately, no doubt, these are reserved for the future, when Sir Gilbert Scott and his young men, having "restored" all our cathedrals, churches, and ruins, may have leisure to furnish up the ancient town on the Wear. We look on the advent of those energetic gentlemen as inevitable in every place, large or small. Otherwise, as we object to "restoring," we would not mention Durham as liable to their operations, lest they should be "called in" to extend the arena of "restoration" beyond the Cathedral, where it is not possible to do much more harm. Of this, exteriorly, it may be said that the grand outline alone remains, and we had better not look too closely into that, for, on approaching the gigantic structure, the tameness and poverty of the details which we owe to successive "restorers" give to the once grand, solemn and beautiful fane a look of meagreness, such as we have seen in certain starved modern specimens of "Early English." There is a big, gaunt church in Gordon Square, St. Pancras, with its poor bones coming, so to say, through its lean ashlar, which for the hungriness of its details is on a par with Durham Cathedral, scraped and chiselled to the core of its enrichments, few as those are.

Canon Greenwell possesses a large collection of objects, discovered by himself in British graves and grave-mounds of unmeasured antiquity. It includes the relics of interments by races which at different and remote periods occupied the island, and is of incalculable value as partially illustrating the modes of life and mortuary customs of the people to whom the graves are due. It appears that in many cases the men and women of those ages anticipated resurrection, and, according to the nature and inspiration of those hopes, such were the objects placed for the use of the friends whose revival was relied on. Besides these, the learned Canon possesses many remains of high intrinsic value, such as ornaments of gold derived from several periods, and displaying the arts as they were practised by their makers. Among these articles are gorgets of gold, bracelets, fibule, rings, &c. The most interesting of these personal treasures is a heavy ring of gold, with an inscription which enables the student to identify it with a Mercian princess, a relative of King Alfred's. The circumstances attending the finding of this relic are such as may lead us to associate it with a journey known to have been undertaken by the princess. This jewel was found by a countryman in, we believe, Warwickshire, and, notwithstanding its weight and appearance,—signs sufficient, one would think, to show that it is of gold,—it was for a considerable time attached as an ornament to a dog's collar.

Canon Greenwell's collection of tools, utensils, and weapons of flint, and other materials, is so rich and so nearly complete as to be among the most valuable and interesting in existence here or abroad. His knowledge of the class of antiquities to which they belong enables him to describe them with a success and vividness which have claimed

the attention of his hearers in public and private. It is not our present purpose to deal at length with the researches and studies which have distinguished the gentleman to whom we owe many of the materials for the present paper, and the opportunity for gathering more while studying the works of fine art of which we are going to speak. First, let us choose some capital examples of landscape-painting from the Canon's wisely-chosen but not numerous collection of such works. Secondly, we propose to describe some of the finer specimens of the illuminator's art to be found in the many noble MSS. in the Cathedral Library at Durham. Thirdly, we shall briefly notice some of the more interesting personal ornaments, jewels, embroideries, and the like, which, mostly found in graves in the Cathedral, are carefully preserved by the Dean and Chapter.

The most important landscape is a magnificent example, produced by Turner in 1807, his best time for such specimens. It is a large water-colour drawing, signed at the foot with the artist's name in full, and representing Rothwaite, a beautiful valley, with steep sides, and a small river passing under a bridge, which has been destroyed since Turner's visit to Borrowdale. This visit is known to have been made about the date in question, so that the period in which the picture was painted is sufficiently defined for practical purposes, even if the style and beauty of the example itself were not enough to show it. Such pictures do not usually bear Turner's signature. Before the work came into the present owner's hands it had suffered much from being badly mounted, and was in a considerable degree faded through unwise exposure to a strong light. When properly remounted and placed under cover so that it was no longer obnoxious to excess of light, its great intrinsic value was apparent, and, in the course of time, the faded tints recovered nearly the whole of their original qualities. At present the drawing shows very little deterioration indeed, and is hardly, if at all, inferior to the least injured of Turner's works. In fact, it has suffered no permanent damage. This is fortunate, for we know few finer drawings by the master. It is a superb example of some of the nobler triumphs of his skill. The bridge has but a single arch, and that rises high above the water to connect the roads on either bank; the stream is edged by rocks in great angular masses which, in the foreground, appear as examples of Turner's unparalleled knowledge of rock forms, and his unsurpassed draughtsmanship. In this respect, the whole is a picture in Turner's soundest mode of practice, and supplies a good instance of the transition in his art, from the culmination of the so-called "grey time" of his labours to the more poetical, but not more solid, style of the "yellow time." The former was to the latter what the fullness of spring is to the splendours of summer. On our left of the stream appear the greyish roofs and walls of the little village. They are in perfect keeping and in delightful harmony of tones and colour with the ruddy rock near them, which gives name to the site. A long, irregular vista is formed by the receding sides of mountains in grey-green tints of exquisite quality, but the mountain-side on our left comprises some of the finest elements, if not the finest features of this treasure.

All the remaining examples which attracted us in Canon Greenwell's collection are by Mr. A. W. Hunt. As we endeavoured in our last article to analyze the art of this painter, descriptions of the works now in question will suffice here. 'Cochem on the Moselle' gives a view in that picturesque town, the road, river-banks, craft on the water and near the sides, many figures moving in the street; the castle-crowned hill beyond. The effect is that of the full moon rising at sunset, the shadows of the sunlight are still of a deep blue, the colour being reflected into them from the sky which day yet illumines; on the brilliant river is the reflection of the berg and its fortress, as displayed by the sun; beyond this highly-tinted space, the same

stream reflects the moonlight in an expanse of silver fire, which is the more intense because of the gorgeousness of the comparatively deep tone of the other part of the mirror. A few clouds before the moon owe their rosy light to the greater luminary, yet they seem about to become transparent in the growing power of the satellite. The castle takes the sunlight from the front, and its deep shadow is thrown behind, to be broken by the light of the moon. This is, of course, quite a different effect from that which Turner forced with excess of blue while painting 'La Héve,' as described in these columns last week. The next drawing is called 'The Devil's Bridge, St. Gothard,' and contains a fine study of the effect of an iris when seen unusually near the eye. The bow spans the torrent which forms the foaming mass of waters in front of the picture, with its infinite varieties of sparkling, intense green, and froth-covered fluid. Sunlight falls on its perpendicular cliff above the rocks of diverse tints which glow near the stream. The treatment of the fore-shortened rock in the middle of the picture, and of the torrent as it is seen before, or through the faintly-coloured fringe or veil of the iris, is extremely fine. Under the iris is a misty vision of falling water. 'Cwm Treffn' is represented in another drawing of great merit. There are glimpses of peace in the sunlit sky beyond the ragged edges of the mountains which rise in sombre, slaty masses, and ascend before us all like the walls of a fortress, and have been, as the foreground shows, channelled by the irresistible glacier; wreaths of mist, not without sunlight, roll in the glen, and the shadow of these vapours is projected on its sides. Here and there verdure appears. Quite another subject occurs in a beautiful drawing of 'Harlech' after a long storm, showing sunlight returning on the low clouds that slowly drift before the wind, seeming too heavy for it. Sunlight is breaking on the thundering sea, which, in parts, takes blue in reflection of gaps in the clouds, revealing the azure firmament. In the foreground is a rift of the coast, and there the sea seems at its greatest trouble,—flakes of foam, almost as dark as cinnamon, are hurried from the surface by the fierce current of air rushing in the rift, and, after clinging here and there, go wildly over the land. It is well to study the power expressed in the swift drawing back of the fallen waves; the complete draughtsmanship of the in-coming waters is especially noteworthy, the seas being blue or buff-green as they come or go, and respectively reflect the sky and the shore. The modelling of the waves is of the most finished kind, nor is the modelling of the rocks in the foreground in any way inferior; on the contrary, it is so complete and solid as to make this picture an exception to the rule with Mr. Hunt, who, as we said before, rarely elaborates his foregrounds. 'On the Greta, above Rokeby,' gives, with perfect draughtsmanship, a vista of rocks and foliage in sunlight of early summer.

We are not among those who, because our ancestors did not paint nature with the completeness of Turner, believe they did not enjoy landscape; there are plenty of proofs to the contrary; but, on the other hand, our forefathers could have had but faint, if any, notions of the success which has attended the efforts of those artists who, like Turner and Mr. Hunt, have striven to fix transitory effects of light and shadow, and record fugitive splendours of colour. That it was not through anything like indifference to the charms of colour that our ancestors did not paint landscapes such as those we have essayed to describe, is proved by the wonderful tact and taste they employed during many centuries in illuminating the MSS. to which we have now to turn, and many of which show how much the art in vogue was studied in Durham in old days. It is evident that at Durham both the scribes and illuminators were active and zealous, for the treasures of their scriptorium were considerable in number, and many remain. There can be no doubt that the art of the latter was valued at a high rate, and the proofs are overwhelming that a characteristic mode of painting obtained in this place, sufficient to justify us in

speaking of the school of Durham, as illuminating, and decorating MSS. in a mode proper to itself. We do not propose to exhaust the list of treasures in the Cathedral Library, but rather to give, in order as nearly chronological as is practicable, some sketches of the leading features of the most precious examples it contains. It will be seen that some of the fragments have, for such works, a prodigious antiquity, and that, as such, and so far as Art in this island is concerned, they stand nearly in the front rank in time.

The oldest fragment is bound with another, also of great antiquity. The former is a portion of the Gospel of St. Luke, probably not later than early in the sixth century, and resembling it, is said, a similarly placed fragment of the Gospel now preserved in the library at Leyden. The former two were bound together even in Anglo-Saxon times, for both bear inscriptions to the same effect, and by the same hand, which is Anglo-Saxon. These MSS. were catalogued so long ago as 1391, thus proving that the volume was in the possession of the monks of St. Cuthbert at this comparatively remote date. The more ancient fragment contains a picture of the Crucifixion, the condition of which suggests to the antiquary that it had been used as a pax. This picture is in such a state, that it is impossible to describe its original character in any intelligible manner; the outlines are blurred, and the colour is almost entirely confused. Enough of the forms remain to show the subject of this ancient picture. The other, and larger part of this volume, consists of a portion of a set of the Gospels, that of St. John coming first, St. Luke's next, and St. Mark's last: these Gospels were undoubtedly transcribed, c. 700, at Lindisfarne, the ancient seat of St. Cuthbert, and conveyed by the monks during peregrinations, which ended at Durham. That the Cathedral here still contains so many of its ancient treasures is due to the fact that, on the dissolution of the monasteries, the establishment was, almost *en masse*, transformed from the older institution to the newer one; monks, officers, and all, accepted the new dispensation, and retained the antiquities without the latter passing through lay-hands. The last Abbot became, we believe, the first Dean of the reconstructed foundation, and most of the chattels of the convent went with the officer. The frontispiece, or opening words of the Gospel of St. John in this volume, "In Principio," displays the finest mode of the art practised by the Anglo-Saxons. The great letters are formed in a fashion which may well be called majestic. They are inlaid, so to say, with a dark rich purple in a greenish grey, and otherwise enriched in colour, and drawn with such firmness and delicacy of touch, and such exquisite precision and refinement obtain in the curves and upright lines as suffice to prove how ardently, if not also how long, the art had been studied before the painter could produce them in this admirable manner. We think the specimen quite equal, if not superior, to the famous 'Book of St. Cuthbert,' now preserved in the British Museum, and it bears distinct traces of a peculiar school of illuminating art, almost entirely independent of the cognate Hibernian school. Both were derived from the broad Byzantine stem, but it appears likely that the sons of St. Cuthbert did not depend on Hibernian art for their skill in illuminating. These pictures have been copied more than once, and are so well known that we need not describe them at length. The other two Gospels have similar, but less striking initials. One thing cannot fail to be noticed by the student of these works, and that is the signs they exhibit of being originally rooted in Roman art, for the main curves partake of the circle more than any other figure, and their combination with straight lines is quite Roman. The designs are more like mosaic than painting of any other sort, in respect to the combination or rather disposition of the colours, for the tints are not more combined than those of cloisonné enamels. In fact, they lie side by side to form patterns in the way which is characteristic of inlays. The "colour," in the artistic sense of that term, is thoroughly Byzantine, and this clearly indicates the school



from which they are derived. The spirals and interlaced ornaments are Anglo-Saxon, and the details of those elements are distinctly not Hibernian.

Another MS. here is of the seventh century, the date of the Venerable Bede, and is attributed to his hands, and, with considerable probability, as it appears to be partly his work. No doubt three men produced it. The book consists of a nearly complete set of the Gospels, of divers dates, and, by the ancient catalogue of the Cathedral Library, it is shown to have been incomplete in 1391. This folio was once lost at sea, when St. Cuthbert's monks, during their long wanderings, essayed to cross to Ireland. It appears to us that the sparse decorations, an interlaced border of this book, are not quite so rigidly conventional as those of the above-named work. The favoured colours are yellow and black. There is a human head drawn, with other forms, on one of the pages, which is distinctly vital, that is not simply monumental, a thing which would have been impossible to the painter of the "In Principio" opening the before-named Gospel of St. John. Not quite so ancient as the earlier portion of the MS. attributed to Bede is another, also, but incorrectly, ascribed to him, and consisting of Cassiodorus's Commentary on the Psalms; on one leaf, p. 81, of this volume, is a picture of David seated on his throne, holding a harp, and with his name and title below. It is very much freer from the Byzantine rules; in fact, rough and rude as it is, it shows the artist either ignorant of the principles of conventional decoration, or, what is quite as likely to have been the case, impatient of them; it is certain, however, that his studies in nature had not justified him in casting aside the conventional laws which supported weaker vessels than himself,—a great deal had to be learnt by painters before they could stand alone. The artist of this King David—there is another, holding a spear, on p. 172 in the same volume—had not the power of drawing draperies with understanding; his human forms are queerer still; yet he was evidently struggling for freedom, or rather he was "rebellious." The painter of the conventional enrichments of this volume, if, as we suppose, he was not the man who did the figures in question, walked between the lines of his education and went safely and well; his interlaced lines, of great delicacy, being serpentine and intricate, consisting of pale green, scarlet, and dark purple, show his art to be Byzantine; but they do not seem to us, as they did to Dr. Waagen, to be "quite in the Irish (Hibernian) taste."

The next example is a fragment, probably of the ninth century, which is bound up with a larger portion of MS., dating from early in the thirteenth century. The former consists of leaves of a Saxon "Gospel," placed, four at the beginning and two at the end of the later work, to which we shall return. That which follows in chronological order is the second volume,—the first is lost,—of a Bible, the gift of Bishop William of St. Carleph (1081-96), who moved the monks from Wearmouth and Jarrow to Durham, and was the friend of the chronicler, Simeon of Durham; to the latter we are indebted for accounts of the see and its bishops. This second volume, which is contemporary with the donor, contains "Romanesque letters" of extraordinary spirit and grandeur of design, highly characteristic of the period. Of about the same date, or perhaps a little later, is a copy of Berengarius's Commentary on the Apocalypse, containing a few designs of wonderful poetry and dignity. Among these the best is an "A," comprising a figure of Christ, seated on his throne, and as grand a conception as that intensely still one which obtained in Byzantine conventions, mixed, moreover, with curious and pathetic symbolism. This design is very nearly as fine as that of Fra Angelico, in 'The Last Judgment,' belonging to Earl Dudley, but in the latter there was no need of symbols, and the idea, at once beautiful and gigantic, owes most of its force to the inspiration of Gothic art, whereas the painter of Bishop William's illumination knew

nothing of that rich and inexhaustible phase of design. It is the Christ of the Apocalypse, with hair like white fire, the sword of the Spirit at his lips, clad in a white robe, which is bordered with red, wearing a cruciform nimbus of gold, within a red circle, having a golden girdle, and holding in his left hand a cross of stars. The aspect of the features is truly grand and suave, without loss of severity, and, in this respect, especially the entire conception of the figure has little or nothing of the mournful, if not stern, Byzantine character. In the same volume we noted a "C" of distinguished merit and great interest, and a "S" not inferior to it. They have a somewhat later look than the "A."

Of the same century is a copy of 'St. Jerome on the Psalms,' with letters of characteristically intricate design, without gold, showing strap-work, combined with scrolls and grotesques of animals, some of which have abundance of force and ingenuity, to say nothing of the apparently inexhaustible diversity of actions of the figures. In this book we find that prevalence of green which marks the period and the style to which it belongs, but, curiously enough, the work exhibits throughout a marked individuality of execution in the more important letters. The style of these examples is rather older than the date of the MS.; accordingly it appears that they were produced by an elderly man; observe the initial of "Sextus," on p. 87.

No work here surpasses in interest, so far as regards the history of Art, the copy (B. ii. 13) of 'St. Augustin on the Psalms,' a specimen derived from late in the eleventh century. It was the gift of the above-named Bishop William de Carleph, and contains, p. 102A, an "I," in which is a striking half-length figure of Christ in benediction, and, below it, a whole-length portrait of Bishop William himself, also bestowing a blessing, and holding his crook, as usual in that act. The prelate's name is placed at the side. More interesting even than this, and an unique example of so early a date, is a portrait of the monk who illuminated the book, humbly kneeling at the foot of the initial; not less important is the fact that the painter's name, "Robert Benjamin," accompanies his likeness. This is one of the few surviving names of ancient English artists.

Of the twelfth century we have a copy of the Epistles of St. Paul, illuminated in the scriptorium of Durham, by order of Bishop Hugh of Pudsey (1153-95), that truculent prelate who built the Galilee here, and did a great deal of work of various kinds, made a tremendous stir in the world, and was duly buried in his church, or, at least, in the Chapter-house. This specimen has many initials of rich and finely-designed character; among them is a superbly-treated "P" at the beginning of the 'Ephesians'; there is another "P," with a triple martyrdom represented in the bow of the letter, but the figures are few. This is, probably, one of the finest MSS. of its time and class; indeed, it far surpasses the average of that class, which is of very high character, both as respects the employment of true and fine principles of decoration in lettering, and the noble execution of the works thus contrived. Had no other specimen of the works of this scriptorium remained, this MS. would have maintained its reputation. Another MS. of this century is still more important, a copy of the Vulgate, in four folios, also written for Bishop Pudsey, and, like the last, given by him to the Monastery of Durham. It is, however, one of the most distressing things an antiquary can do, to look through this MS. and find that it has been shamelessly, if not ignorantly, mutilated by some one who cut the fine initials out of the vellum without the slightest concern as to the mischief done in the act. A large pair of scissors seems to have been used for this purpose, by a hand which did not care to direct them with precision. Whether this evil be the work of some mercileless collector—like John Bagford, whose "collections" of fragments, now in the Department of MSS., British Museum, include thousands of engravings, fragments of MSS., illuminations, woodcuts, specimens of typography, and the like, all ruthlessly torn out of volumes—it

would be impossible to say, nor would it be easy to decide whether, as the tale goes, the nursemaid of a former Dean—one of a class which is so frequently at war with Art that, "destructive as a Dean" has passed into a proverb with archaeologists—cut the precious letters from these volumes with her scissors, and gave them to her pretty charges to lick and tear. One cannot decide the point; but where existed azure, gold, purple and vermilion, framed in beautiful frames, and laid on with art which was the inheritance of centuries and the pride of a great monastery, there is, in a large number of cases, nothing but huge cavities divided out and gaping leaves of vellum; nevertheless, other skins contain enough to excite our admiration for Bishop Hugh's artists. P. 132, iii Maccabees ii. is an "E," comprising a battle, designed with wonderful spirit, and, if the term be acceptable, fierceness; the monk who did it must have been, one would not hesitate to say, a soldier in his youth and seen how battles went; the pictured soldiers wear mail, and carry kite-shaped shields and swords with short guards; these elements of costume and other signs lead us to suppose that the painter was rather an old man, who dressed his combatants in a way which was slightly out of date. There are pictures here by a different and apparently younger hand. In the fourth volume is an arcade, with the Kalendar inscribed within it, which is curious on account of its being a fine exposition of the mode at the time in question of enriching architecture with colour, and an illustration of Transitional Romanesque art, and also, doubtless, a portrait of the arcade of the chapter-house at Durham, even to the decoration of one of the shafts with flowers and bands. These volumes are in their original bindings of leather stamped with figures of apostles, &c., and curious arabesques; the surfaces are protected, as usual, by studs of metal. Nothing can be rarer than these bindings. There is also a Psalter, likewise in the original binding, of excellent character, comprising, impressed on the top cover, soldiers on horseback, and below, a female harp-player; on the lower cover are some richly-designed honey-suckle ornaments, such as appear in architecture of the period, the thirteenth century. Of the same period is a Psalter, with glosses. The Anglo-Saxon Gospels named above are bound up with this volume, which contains numerous illustrations of remarkable interest and merit, the work of a good designer and a capital painter in the mode of his time, which need not be described to students. On p. 92 is a fine example of the painter's skill in design; there is another on p. 122. The initials referring to what the fool said in his heart, and that of the scoffer snapping his fingers, are, amongst numerous others, all of fine workmanship. At the passage, "Save me, O Lord!" p. 155, is a picture of a naked man falling into the water from a boat, which contains two other men; each of these has an appropriate action. On p. 192 is David playing on the harp, a subject which was much in vogue at this period; it is capitally designed and very well drawn. The tails of the letters in this volume are remarkable for their beauty, spirit, and apparently inexhaustible variety.

Of the thirteenth century, but rather late, is a Bible with initials, comprising designs of figures, also flourished tails and heads of extraordinary wealth and energy of drawing. It is apparently an example which displays the use of colour over gold; at the opening is a "P," comprising a monkish artist at work at his desk, and, below him, is the Devil, bent on endeavouring to bring that work to an end. Satan laboured in vain, but, as we see, he gave much thought to the matter. On p. 340, beginning of St. Matthew, is a good figure of Jesse sleeping, with the genealogy. The colouring of these illuminations is extremely fine: notice the lovely combination of green with gold, with the deep blue diaper which is in itself of great beauty.

Written probably during the first quarter of the fourteenth century, is a fine copy of the Decretals of Gregory the Ninth, with the commentary of J. Andreas and others, which contains a vast

number of initials, the work of at least three distinct hands, in as many degrees of merit, comprising some grotesques of extraordinary spirit and force of design. See, on pp. 191—3, some good armorials. There are other illuminated MSS. here, but the above are the most important among them.

Among the more ancient antiquities preserved in Durham Cathedral, are Roman altars and sculptures found in the neighbourhood, and fragments of sculptured stone crosses the decoration of which was evidently derived from late Roman art, being scrolls, &c. founded on the circle, and similar to those which exist in the churchyards of Eyam and Bakewell, Derbyshire, and elsewhere, and to fragments in the porch of the church at Bakewell. In the Library of the Cathedral are preserved many specimens of ancient art found on the tombs here, comprising a stole and maniple, part of the vestments presented by Athelstan, 934, to the tomb of St. Cuthbert, and removed from the bones of the saint when, in 1827, they were shifted, and comprising fine examples of the *opus Anglicanum*, of the time in which they were wrought. No estimate can be too high of the beauty of the embroideries of figures of saints, which in the usual mode appear on the front of the splendid maniple, and bear the names of the subjects represented. The material is gold thread woven with silk, the figures appear to have been worked in spaces appropriated to them, and with the needle in coloured silks, which, like the gold, retain the brilliancy of the tints. On the end of the maniple is "Pio Episcopo Frithestano," referring to the Bishop of Winchester, *ob.* 933. On the end of the stole is "Eadlfad fieri precepit," referring to the second Queen of Edward the Elder, whose death took place long before Athelstan gave these garments to the corpse of St. Cuthbert: they must, therefore, have been part of the royal treasure of England. There are other fragments, including a pair of armlets of red silk and gold, besides part of an episcopal girdle, all found in the tomb of St. Cuthbert. There is, likewise, another maniple, of the thirteenth century, or, perhaps, later date, of red silk, with foliage embroidered on it. Two other personal relics of St. Cuthbert remain to be mentioned; they are his pectoral cross and his portable altar; at least these relics were found in his tomb, and it is just possible that they may have been placed with the bones of the saint of many journeys. The altar is made of oak, and not, like that belonging to the late Dr. Rock, of stone; but then this latter was of much later date, and, if one may say so, pertains to a different dispensation than St. Cuthbert's, if the antiquity in question were indeed his. The wood has, attached to it by small nails, certain fragments of silver plates; on one face of the utensil is a circle, inclosed by an inscription in Greek characters, which has not, we believe, been rendered in a perfectly satisfactory manner. Foliated ornaments occur at the angles of the slab. On the opposite side of the altar is represented a priest, with an imperfect Greek inscription; on the wood itself, below the plating here, another, Latin, inscription occurs, also imperfect, the letters of which are similar to those of the MS. described above as attributed to St. Cuthbert himself. The student can hardly escape feeling the pathetic interest which attaches to this relic, probably the chief treasure of the Apostle of the North, who died nearly twelve hundred years ago, and might have used this very altar in the offices he considered most sacred. The pectoral cross, also ascribed to St. Cuthbert, is of the Greek form and made of gold, enriched with carbuncles, or glass of the same colour, with, at the intersection, a space for a relic. There is every reason to believe that this object belonged to St. Cuthbert; it is probably older than his time, and he may not have been the first owner of what is, at any rate, a very extraordinary relic. An ivory comb of ancient but uncertain date was found in the tomb of the saint, and is preserved with the other articles.

In the building which was originally the dormitory are preserved five copes of great splendour, which, until little more than a hundred years ago,

were actually used in the services of the Cathedral. To one of these garments a tradition is attached, that after her victory at Neville's Cross, Philippa of Hainault gave it to the monastery. The others are of later dates, but all are interesting. There is also a fine collection of official, regal, and general seals, forming a series from the eleventh century to the sixteenth. We cannot deal, however imperfectly, with these examples. They have special interest for the student of art as well as for the antiquary. The reverse of the seal of the Prior and Convent of Durham consists of an antique intaglio, the head of Jupiter Serapis, with an inscription attesting it to be "Caput Sancti Oswaldi Regis." The obverse has a Greek cross of the eleventh century.

#### MR. CORNELIUS VARLEY.

WE have to record the death, on the 2nd inst., at the great age of ninety-two, of Mr. Cornelius Varley, younger brother, by three years only, of John Varley, who was the teacher of Mulready, W. Hunt, Mr. Linnell, Turner of Oxford, C. Fielding, F. O. Finch, and other famous English artists. Cornelius Varley was one of the original members of the Society of Painters in Water Colours, founded in 1805, and he was even then an artist of some reputation. The last survivor of the sixteen founders, he continued to be connected with the Society for many years. Yet so long ago is it since he ceased to exhibit pictures that most of our readers have probably forgotten that he was a landscape painter, and, in 1803, contributed, for the first time, to the Royal Academy a picture (No. 593), doubtless quite in the mode of his brother John, and styled 'A Wood Scene, a composition.' The brothers resided at No. 2, Harris Place, Oxford Street, a court near the "Pantheon," and there Cornelius enjoyed the company and fun of which the kindly John Varley was the centre and chief inspirer. A third brother, William Varley, also an artist, died long ago. There were, besides, two sisters, one of whom, herself an artist, married Mulready. John Varley married Esther Gisborne; Clementi, the composer and pianist, married her sister Emma; and Copley Fielding married her other sister, Susanna. Mr. John Gisborne, an engineer, was the brother of the three sisters. He was the intimate friend of Shelley, and the recipient of so many letters published in 'Essays and Letters of Shelley.' Shelley was concerned with this Mr. Gisborne in establishing the steamboat to run between Marseilles and Leghorn; to his wife Shelley addressed the beautiful 'Letter to Maria Gisborne,' and that poem contains allusions to the—

— machine portentous, or strange gin,  
Which by the force of figured spells might win  
Its way over the sea, and sport therein.

This was the engine of the steamboat, and the place described in the poem was the workshop of Shelley. The "Henry" named in these verses was Mr. Henry Reveley, well known in his day as an engineer, the son of Mrs. John Gisborne by her first husband. One of Henry's most noteworthy schemes was to construct a tube from London to Brighton, through which trains of loaded carriages were to be driven by atmospheric power. John Varley was married, the second time, to the daughter of Wilson Lowry, herself authoress of 'Conversations on Mineralogy.' But we have almost lost sight of Mr. Cornelius Varley, the artistic patriarch, with whose death a whole century seems to have sunk out of sight at once. Born in 1788, he must have known many persons who knew Hogarth. He was ten years old when Reynolds died, and Lawrence's junior by twelve years only, and outlived the P.R.A. forty-three years; he knew Blake, who was a friend of his brother John's; and his life overlapped that of Wilkie by four years at one end and thirty-two at the other. Mr. Cornelius Varley must have been well known until within a short space of time to frequenters of the Royal Institution, where he appeared with optical and other instruments. He was the inventor of an instrument called the graphic telescope, and during his long life retained

the high respect of his intimates; his son, Mr. Cromwell Varley, is universally known as an electrician.

#### CHICHESTER CAMPANILE.

YOU publish a letter in your current number from "Cicestrensis," under date Chichester, September 19, 1873, the author of which commences with an erroneous preamble; he then proceeds "to state the facts" of the case in ignorance of them; assumes that which is incorrect in his argument upon such facts; and concludes by "invoking your aid in the endeavour to elicit from the artist and the antiquary an indignant protest against this gross act of Vandalism."

Such a letter might have passed unnoticed by us if your editorial remarks had not shown that you were influenced by your Correspondent's statements, and we trust that you will allow us space to contradict some of his assertions, in order that the ground may be cleared for the fair criticism and, if deserved, the "indignant protest of the artist and the antiquary" which he wishes to invoke.

It is not true, then, that the Campanile is "in great peril certainly of defacement." It is not true that "a huge tank is to be placed on the very top of the Campanile." It is not true that the "water company has not succeeded in raising sufficient capital to commence the works on the plan intended." It is not true that "by using the lofty Campanile the company will save the great cost of building a water-tower for the service of the city." It is not true that the "construction of a service tank for the whole city" (in the Campanile) is or has been contemplated. It is not true that "there would be a constant (or any) pumping and work of one (or any) kind and another going on in and about the tower, to the utter (or any) destruction of the charm of the place, and certainly also to its serious (or smallest) injury as a work of art."

The impression upon the mind of the writer, and the one which he seems to have conveyed to you, appears to be that the building will be disfigured. It was to prevent such a misapprehension that we wrote to the *Times*, and the letter was published on the 5th of September, as follows: "A careful survey has shown that the tank can be fitted inside the tower without altering its appearance in the slightest degree, or, indeed, removing a stone, and that the slight additional weight to be put upon it will certainly not affect its stability."

We have only to add, that a tank which will be invisible cannot be a disfigurement.

SHELFORD & ROBINSON,  
Engineers of the Water Company.

#### Fine-Art Gossip.

MR. MURRAY has in preparation a work by E. R. Robson, Architect to the London School Board, called 'Schoolhouses for the People,' containing directions for the planning, building, &c. of school-rooms; a book by Robert Kerr, styled 'A Small Country House: a brief practical Discourse on the planning of a Residence to cost from 2,000*l.* to 5,000*l.*;' and new editions of Mr. Street's volume on 'Brick and Marble Architecture of the Middle Ages,' and of Kügler's Handbooks.

MESSRS. BENTLEY promise 'The Life and Work of Thorvaldsen,' by Eugene Plon, from the French by Mrs. Cashel Hoey.

MR. GRAVES, of Pall Mall, has got together a complete collection of engravings from the works of Sir E. Landseer, and proposes to admit, gratuitously, those admirers of the artist who may desire to inspect them.

MESSRS. G. BELL & SONS have in preparation, to be published in a week or two, 'Memoirs of Sir E. Landseer,' by Mr. F. G. Stephens, being a new edition of 'Early Works of Sir E. Landseer,' with additions and reproductions of some of the artist's more important works.

THE following explains itself:—"In Fine-Art Gossip (*Athenæum*, August 23) the attention of



artists and of the public is called to a proposal to move the Cartoons from their present location to the new building in Trafalgar Square. As a professional artist, I have often had occasion to visit and to use the collection at South Kensington, being under the necessity of traversing a distance of twelve miles, there and back, each time. There are thousands in London, say a million or so, who are even further away. I, therefore, rejoice that there is some idea of bringing the Cartoons—unapproachable in a double sense—to Trafalgar Square, the original, and I may say, with the map of London in my eye, the only legitimate focus for our principal Art-treasures. FRANK BARNARD.

We recently directed attention to the proposed establishment of a Fine-Art Gallery in Liverpool. In reference to the project, a public meeting of the inhabitants of Liverpool was lately convened by the Mayor. It was there stated that five gentlemen in the locality had promised 1,000*l.* each towards the project. The amount wanted is about 25,000*l.* A Committee has been formed to carry out the views of the meeting, and it is expected that the sum required will soon be forthcoming.

THE *Building News*, having Mr. Street's designs and plans for the new Law Courts under examination, and comparing the present state of these documents with that in which they appeared to the same observer more than two years ago, affirms that the result of the process of reducing the cost of the work—a process of which we have heard not a little—has been a saving of 15,000*l.* on the estimate for decorations. No other change has been made. To save this 15,000*l.* not, doubtless, to the benefit of the architecture, an expense of at least 40,000*l.* a year has been incurred, that sum being the interest for the money expended on the site. What else has been lost, or what greater sums have to be added to this reckoning, need not be said. Not a farthing less than 100,000*l.*, and, probably, very much more than that sum, has been wasted to save this 15,000*l.* The wisdom, from an architectural point of view, of the proceeding has been on a par with its "economy."

THE Council of the Archeological Institute have decided upon Ripon as the place of their annual meeting next year. The Marquis of Ripon will be President.

We have to record the death of M. E. J. B. Tschaggeny, the animal painter, of Brussels. He studied under the late M. Verboeckhoeven, and was a much better although a less popular painter than his teacher. He was a careful student of nature, and produced a series of drawings of the anatomy of the cow, an important work, which occupied him for a long time.

THE Louvre has been enriched by the addition of a monument of great interest as illustrating one of the most important branches of French art in the fourteenth century. This is the recumbent statue, with hands joined in prayer, representing Blanche of Champagne, wife of John the First, Duke of Brittany, who died at the end of the thirteenth century. It is a fine specimen of Limoges enamel of the period, and is said, possibly incorrectly, to be unique in France. It was formed by fixing plates of enamelled copper with nails on a wooden figure. It was removed from the Abbey of Hennebont, Brittany. Our readers will remember that there is a tomb of a similar kind in Westminster Abbey, that of William de Valence, *ob.* 1296. This was doubtless wrought at Limoges. Mr. Burges, in his admirable account of the tombs in our Abbey, adopts the opinion that it came from Limoges, and does so on apparently satisfactory grounds. It is enriched with *champlevé* enamels.

A 'ST. CHRISTOPHER,' gigantic as usual, has been discovered painted in distemper on the north wall of the church of St. Mary the Virgin, Hayes, Middlesex. The Saint is represented crossing the river with Christ on his shoulders, and holding in his staff, the serpent on which a contemporary describes as an eel (!) He wears a blue jerkin, a scarlet cape, and buff breeches. This church con-

tains the well-known brass commemorating Walter Green in armour, *ob.* December, 1450.

THE architectural memorial to Sir Herbert Edwards has been set up in Westminster Abbey; it comprises a bust, with decorations.

Those who remember the works by Spanish artists in the Paris Exhibition of 1867, will readily call to mind a striking canvas by Rosales, the subject 'Isabella the Catholic dictating her Will.' The death of this promising artist is announced from Madrid. Born at Madrid in 1837, he studied under Ferrant and Madrazo until 1855. After that he made Rome his headquarters, where he patiently studied, copying works by the old masters for his daily bread. In 1862 he exhibited his first work, a study of the head of a Roman girl, 'Nena'; in 1864, 'Isabella the Catholic dictating her Will,' and which latter gained a medal. In their biographical gallery of Spanish artists, Ossorio and Bernard give a lengthy list of Rosales' works, amongst them a portrait of D. Garcia Aznar, fifth Count of Aragon, now in the Madrid Museo, and a San José, painted for the Church at Vergara. His great work, 'The Death of Lucretia,' gained a first-class medal at the late Exhibition in Madrid. His 'Presentation of Don John of Austria to the Emperor Charles the Fifth at Yuste,' was highly commended by the critics at the time of exhibition. Several minor works and portraits have to be added to the list of his more important conceptions. Rosales was awarded by the French Emperor the cross of the Legion of Honour, and by King Amadeo the cross of Isabella la Católica. It can hardly be admitted that Rosales was a great artist, but he was one of that band of earnest workers, more or less gifted, who have raised modern Spanish art to the respectable position it now occupies.

SOME difference of opinion having arisen between the officials representing the Madrid Government and Don Pedro de Madrazo with reference to the management and arrangement of the national collection of paintings in the Museo del Prado, that gentleman retires from the directorship. Señor Sans is named as his probable successor. We may now reasonably hope that, with leisure at his command, Señor Madrazo will complete the second instalment of his admirable and exhaustive Catalogue of the rich artistic contents of the Museo. It will be remembered that the first part was issued early in 1872, and comprised the Italian and Spanish schools only.

## MUSIO

### CRYSTAL PALACE CONCERTS.

J. S. BACH, Weber, Spontini, and Mendelssohn were well contrasted in the opening scheme of the Sydenham Saturday Afternoon Concerts. Herr Pauer and Dr. Julius Rietz represented the present race of composers. These names suffice to show that the programme was highly interesting. Taking the works in the order of execution, we may remark that it was most agreeable to the ear to listen to the thoroughly tuneful and highly dramatic music of Spontini, as exemplified in his 'Nurmahal' overture, composed in the first instance for a ballet, and subsequently expanded into an opera. His 'Vestale' is a standing work in the operatic repertoire in Germany; and we have now the news from Berlin that his other great lyric drama, 'Fernando Cortez,' is to be revived, as well as 'Nurmahal.' The libretto is based on Moore's 'Lalla Rookh'; and, Félicien David excepted, we know of no composer who has more happily caught the spirit of the Oriental poem. Spontini's dramatic compositions are essentially Italian in imagery and in treatment, that is, they are brimful of melody, with the orchestral mannerism which Rossini imitated; there are the inevitable *crescendos* and *diminuendos*, with picturesque points of instrumentation, at times highly suggestive of the subject set by the musician. Bach's Pianoforte Concerto in *F* minor is a

specimen of what harpsichord writing was in the olden time—curious as a reminder, but dry if not dull, now that we have the resources of the modern grand pianoforte of our Erards and Broadwoods. Herr Pauer executed the three movements with becoming gravity, but the work ought rather to be given at classical pianoforte concerts than in an arena where the resources of a full band are looked for. Not a word is required to describe the effect of the Scotch Symphony of Mendelssohn, which was finely executed, the *scherzo* especially so. Mr. Manns might take out a patent for the admirable accent he gives to *minuets* and *scheros*. Next to the symphony came Herr Pauer's playing of variations on a theme from Mozart's 'Seraglio,' succeeded by his spirited and exact performance of the *finale* from Weber's Sonata in *c*, the perpetual movement of both hands being sustained with remarkable precision. The 'Festival' overture, by Dr. Julius Rietz, appropriate as it no doubt was to the Golden Wedding of the King and Queen of Saxony last year, and able and even striking as its workmanship is, did not interest the hearers, indeed occasional music rarely does, except at the time and in the locality where it is first performed; only Weber's 'Jubilee' overture seems to live. Herr Rietz, however, stands so high in Germany, that we shall doubtless have an opportunity of hearing other works than his 'Lustspiel' and 'Festival' overtures, in both of which the intelligence of the Professor is more palpable than the inspiration. With the exception of Mr. Vernon Rigby's careful reading of Mozart's aria, 'Una aura amorosa,' there is nothing to refer to as regards the vocalists, but we may as well recommend more caution in the introduction of new singers.

By way of correction of our previous notification of the novelties to be produced during this series of concerts, we are glad to be reminded that the 'Meditation,' for violin solo and orchestra, by M. Gounod, is a new work, and not the Bach 'Meditation,' as has been supposed.

### 'LEGEND OF THE LYS.'

HERR MEYER LUTZ, the musical director and conductor at the Gaiety Theatre, having the reputation of being a sound musician, who has composed works indicating imagination as well as showing artistic skill, his new descriptive Cantata, produced at Covent Garden Theatre last Monday night, attracted professors and amateurs who are only seen collected on extraordinary occasions. Mr. E. Reece is the author of the book; but, in the published words, he gives no key to the precise locality where the 'Lorely' legend, for such it is, passes. The tenor has an Italian name, Rodolpho; the contralto, the Page Grimwald is German; Jeannette the soprano, is French; and Riversprite the basso, may claim any country. The river Lys, which flows into the Scheldt, may be either Dutch, Belgian, or French. Then Jeannette, in her aria *d'entrata*, boasts that she is "Vivandière! Cantinière!" but, in the *finale*, the Page, who is instrumental in saving her from the Riversprite, who has enticed her to the coral caves below the "rolling stream," where she has to listen to his "burning words," under water announces her as a "Queen," to be welcomed with revelry and song. We have all heard of Handel's 'Water Music'; but Mr. Reece will not skim the surface of the Lys, he supplies the "sound of hunting horns" as heard below the water by Jeannette, who sings of the inexorable doom which prevents her from joining in the chase. The composer must be complimented for not having been submerged by his sorry subject, which he has set in many portions attractively. In the whole score, he shows that he is master of orchestration; an Overture in *c* minor, a Scherzo full of fanciful devices, and a jubilant March being prominent numbers. The accompaniments to the vocal pieces—those to the ballad of the bass, 'The Spirit's love that never dies,' and to the air of the tenor, 'From the moment I met thee' (encored), especially—are nicely laid out, both for wood and stringed. The music is, however, wedded to such a feeble story

that we cannot see any signs of vitality for the 'Legend of the Lys,' except in some of the detached pieces. The execution was unsteady and precarious, evidencing lack of preparation; and the composer was well served only by Mr. Pearson, the tenor, who sang with marked expression.

#### 'LA FILLE DE MADAME ANGOT.'

If the new management of the Royal Philharmonic Theatre, at Islington, had been as well served by their singers as it has been by the poet, the scenic artist, the costumier, the choralists, and the musical director, the English adaptation of 'La Fille de Madame Angot' might be safely pronounced to be a decided success. The outlay for the *mise en scène* has been most liberal; in Mr. Byron an able adapter was secured; the conductor, Mr. G. Richardson, with a small orchestra, does his work artistically; but the success of the representation was endangered by the incapacity, and, what was worse, the vulgarity of the leading performers of the male characters, who fell into the grievous mistake of thinking they were playing in a burlesque, instead of a genuine comedy, as the libretto of MM. Clairville, Siraudin, and Koning really is. Mr. Byron is not to be blamed, for he has adhered pretty closely to the original drama; and he may be pardoned for trying a few jokes not precisely in harmony with the jargon of the Carreau des Halles, in Paris, towards the close of the eighteenth century. There was certainly some relief to the coarseness of the actors in the inanimate acting of Mr. Nordblom, as *Ange Pitou*; but his colleagues were really intolerable. Of the lady artists we can speak more favourably. Miss Julia Mathews, as *Mlle. Lange*, the Paris actress, played as she has never before played, probably, delivering the dialogue with point and piquancy, and singing always with animation, and sometimes with sensibility. Her asides were admirable; spoken with that isolated tone, as if she was inwardly communing with herself. Nor as the *Market Woman* was Miss Annie Goodall without a keen perception of humour; she sang well also. The *Clairette* of Miss Selina Dolaro was stiff and dolorous; the pet of the Halles is not meant to be a morbid sentimentalist, for is she not the daughter of Madame Angot?—

Très jolle,  
Peu polie.

Those who have seen 'La Fille de Madame Angot' in Brussels and Paris, and at the St. James's Theatre, with M. Humbert's Belgian troupe, will certainly not be pleased with the first English adaptation. The cast required comedians of tact and finish, and not artists of the music-hall type. It may be doubted whether the story is one calculated for a mixed London audience; it is a picture of peculiar manners and customs of local interest; it treats of times of which little or nothing can be known by the denizens of our galleries. Now the 'Cent Vierges' has a British plot; it is full of droll situations, which will tell in any country, and it would have been a better selection for Islington than 'La Fille de Madame Angot.'

#### Musical Gossip.

HERR CARL ROSA'S English Opera Company will give a series of representations in London for four weeks during the month of next March, an arrangement having been made with Mr. F. Chatterton, the lessee of Drury Lane Theatre. Madame Parepa-Rosa will be included in the list of artists, amongst whom are Madame Vaneri, Miss Blanche Cole, Miss Rose Hersee, Miss L. Franklin, Mrs. A. Cook, the Misses Lewis, Messrs. W. Castle, De Solla, T. Campbell, A. Cook, Stevens, &c., who have been playing this week at Sheffield, after performances at Manchester and Bradford. Next week the company will be in Liverpool, and will afterwards go to Brighton, Bristol, and Birmingham.

The eighth series of the Musical Evenings for the performance of classical chamber compositions will be commenced, in St. George's Hall, on the

22nd inst., under the direction of Mr. Henry Holmes, the violinist and composer.

ELEVEN oratorio concerts will be given by the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society, the first one on the 30th inst., and the final one on the 19th of next March. Mr. Barnby is the conductor. The selected works are the 'Messiah,' 'Israel in Egypt,' and 'Theodora' by Handel; Bach's 'Passion Music' (St. Matthew), and his Christmas Oratorio; Mendelssohn's 'St. Paul,' 'Elijah,' 'Hymn of Praise,' and 114th Psalm ('When Israel out of Egypt came'); Haydn's 'Creation'; Rossini's 'Stabat Mater'; Herr Hiller's 'Song of Victory'; M. Gounod's 'Gallia'; and Mr. Macfarren's 'Outward Bound.' Here is certainly variety enough, with some novelties, and the subscribers will have the advantage of a change of programme every concert. Dr. Stainer, of St. Paul's Cathedral, will preside at the great organ, and the singers and instrumentalists will number 1,200 performers.

THE Newport National Eisteddfod was celebrated on the 6th and 7th inst., in the Victoria Hall. The President, Sir John Ramsden, Bart., M.P., was unavoidably absent. Mr. Brinley Richards was the conductor. The choir competitions were the most interesting portions of the programme. The ten guinea prize was won by the Newport Choir. The 50*l.* prize fell to the Ebbw Vale, No. 1. Both Mr. Richards and Mr. John Thomas, the harpist who assisted in the adjudication, pronounced the choral singing of the Welsh to be generally excellent; the former, however, reminding the executants that superiority was not always on the side of big choirs—that sound was not music.

THE Crystal Palace managers announce that they will give a Grand Military Fête, with a band of more than 100 players, under the direction of Mr. Smyth, of the Royal Military Band, and a performance of Donizetti's 'Daughter of the Regiment.' Soldiers or volunteers are to be admitted at a reduced rate, and Field-Marshal the Duke of Cambridge has authorized commanding officers to grant leave to well-conducted soldiers to attend next Monday.

SIR JULIUS BENEDICT conducted the Mozartian Selection at M. Rivière's Covent Garden Concerts on the 8th, when Mr. W. H. Thomas, son of Mr. Lewis Thomas, the basso, made his *début*, and played Mozart's Piano-forte Concerto in c; Mlle. Carlotta Patti was assigned the 'Queen of Night' *bravura*, from the 'Magic Flute'; Mlle. Victoria Bunsen, 'Voi che sapete'; Mr. G. Perren, 'Il mio tesoro'; Signor Federici, 'Deh Vieni alla finestra'; and Miss Loseby the duet, 'The Manly Heart.' The orchestral pieces were the Symphony, in e flat; and the overtures, 'Nozze di Figaro' and the 'Clemenza di Tito.' If the second part of M. Rivière's programmes was equal in excellence to the foregoing pieces, we should believe that the prophecies, some quarter of a century since, that the visitors to Promenade Concerts would advance so much in knowledge and taste that the entire schemes would be classical and unexceptionable, had been realized. But the same system on which Mr. Eliason, M. Jullien, and Mr. Mellon concocted their concerts years ago, prevails now, and art advancement is nowhere in this sort of entertainment, at which the restaurant is more regarded than the *répertoire*.

MESSRS. CHAPMAN & HALL are shortly to publish 'Richard Wagner and the Music of the Future,' by Dr. Hüffer. It will contain much new matter on the history of modern music.

HERR GUNG'L has been engaged for Mr. de Jong's concerts in the Manchester Free Trade Hall.

MR. COLE, C.B., will make a provincial tour, through the leading towns, to explain the working of the New Training School of Music, at South Kensington, and to obtain funds for the 300 scholarships. The site of the new institution will be adjoining the Royal Albert Hall, and the first stone will be laid next month, by the Duke of Edinburgh.

THE Director of the Grand Opera-house in Paris has introduced a new *prima donna*, Mlle. Ferucci, of Italian origin, domiciled in Paris, who has sung in St. Petersburg. Valentine, in Meyerbeer's 'Huguenots,' was selected for her opening character, and she met with an encouraging reception. Her voice and her dramatic style are praised by the Parisian critics. M. Mermet's 'Jeanne d'Arc' is in active preparation. M. Ambroise Thomas is setting 'Françoise de Rimini' for the Grand Opéra, and is also re-modelling his 'Psyché,' produced at the Opéra Comique, for the same theatre.

HERR STRAKOSCH has taken a partner in the management of the Italian Opera-house in Paris in Signor Merelli, a well-known Impresario in Italy, who was director of the St. Petersburg and Moscow Italian Opera-houses. Donizetti's 'Don Pasquale' was the opening opera last Tuesday night, with Mlle. Belval (Norina), Signor Benfatrelli (Ernesto), Signor Delle Sedie (Dr. Malatesta), and Signor Zucchini (Don Pasquale). On Thursday Rossini's 'Barbiere' was announced, with Mlle. de Bellocca (Rosina), Signor Brignoli (the Count), Signor Delle Sedie (Figaro), Signor Fiorini (Basilio), and Signor Zucchini (Dr. Bartolo). The interest of these two casts is centered in the two *débutantes*, Mlle. Belval and Mlle. de Bellocca. The first is French, the other is Russian. Mlle. Bellocca was born in St. Petersburg, and is in her twentieth year. Her father is a Councillor of State, who vainly tried to persuade his daughter not to think of the lyric stage. He sent her to Paris, where, however, she met Herr Strakosch, became his pupil, and, on his judgment, her family gave way, and agreed that she should try her fortune as a *prima donna*. She was to have appeared as Arsace, in 'Semiramide,' but, as the young lady possesses soprano notes as well as those of a pure contralto, Rosina was assigned to her; her lesson solo being a Russian air, scored by Signor Vianesi, the conductor. Mlle. Marie Belval is the daughter of the basso of the Grand Opéra, M. Belval. Signor Benfatrelli is a new tenor, and Signor Fiorini a new basso, but the other artists have been long well known. We shall be able next week to speak of the new comers.

A NEW *opéra-bouffe* is in preparation at the Bouffes-Parisiens, 'La Quenouille de Verre,' the libretto by MM. A. Millaud and Heugel, jun., and the music by M. Charles Grisart; the chief characters to be sustained by Mesdames Judic, Peschard, and Debreux; MM. Homerville and E. Georges.

SIGNOR SCALABERNI, the director of the Italian Opera-house at Nice, has engaged, for the winter season, Mesdames Fricci-Baldini, Adelaide, and Erminia Borghi-Mamo, Ida Augustoni, Amorini, Barelli, Viviani, and Neri; Signori Vanzetti, D'Ottavi, Fioravanti, Dal Passo, Tagliapietra, Tranci, Talbo, Polonini, and Maccani.

THE cast of M. Gounod's revised opera of 'Mereille,' which will be produced in St. Petersburg this season, will include Madame Adelina Patti, Mlle Scalchi, Signori Nicolini, Graziani and Baggiolo.

THE NEW York Academy of Music was opened for the season on Monday, the 29th of September, with Verdi's 'Traviata,' sustained by Madame Nilsson, M. Capoul and Signor Del Puente; the receipts, which were 5,000 dollars (1,000*l.*), show the continued popularity in America of the Swedish *prima donna*.

#### DRAMA

THEATRE ROYAL DRURY LANE.—Sole Lessee and Manager, F. B. Chatterton.—Triumphant success of 'ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA,' unanimously pronounced by the Public Press to be the grandest and most gorgeous spectacle ever witnessed on the Stage of Old Drury.—On MONDAY, and during the Week, will be performed Shakespeare's Tragedy of 'ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA,' concentrated into Four Acts and Twelve Scenes, by Mr. Andrew Halliday, illustrated with New and Characteristic Scenery by Mr. William Beverly. The cast will include Mr. James Anderson, Messrs. Ryder, H. Russell, A. Glover, Rignold, Dolman, J. Morris, Byron, Ford, Lichfold, Milton, Sargent, H. Clifford, and H. Sinclair; Miss Wallis, Mesdames Banks, E. Stuart, Melville, Adeline Geddis, &c. The Performances will commence with a Farceful Musical Ecceitricity, in one Act, entitled 'NOBODY IN LONDON.' To conclude with a New and Original Farce, entitled 'THE STRAIGHT TIP.'—Prices, from sixpence to Five Guineas. Doors open at half-past Six, commence at Seven. Box-Office open from Ten till Five daily.



## THE WEEK.

OLYMPIC.—'Sour Grapes,' a Comedy, in Four Acts. By Mr. H. J. Byron. 'A Game of Rumps.' GLOBE.—'Arkwright's Wife,' a Domestic Drama, in Three Acts. By Tom Taylor and John Saunders.

IN commencing at the Olympic Theatre a term of management, Mr. Neville obtains a measure of public sympathy. His career as actor has been marked by patience, conscientiousness and energy—qualities safer in England, and more trustworthy as the means to success and fortune than more brilliant gifts. The choice of a company, including many esteemed actors, with others whose names are now for the first time heard, proves the management to be at once liberal and enterprising. In turning to Mr. Byron for his opening drama, Mr. Neville has been sagacious and prudent rather than fortunate. Of the half score or score dramas which Mr. Byron, in the last four or five years, has given the public, all have escaped failure, and not a few have obtained distinct success. His least prosperous work has hitherto proved lively and amusing, the humour of the dialogue atoning with the audience for faults of construction or defects of plot. Unfortunately, 'Sour Grapes' is the worst play Mr. Byron has yet produced. It has little good about it, except its pretty title, which is wholly inappropriate. Not easy, indeed, is it to regard it as a dramatic composition. Mr. Byron has apparently scanned Mr. Neville's company, taken the measures of the respective actors, and contracted, like a literary tailor, to fit each with a suit. Of the characters introduced into his play, half are unnecessary to the plot; and the plot itself seems intended for burlesque rather than for comedy. There is a well-known legend of the Laureate's concerning the Lord of Burleigh, which is, indeed, based upon the ballad of King Cophetua, showing how a man of high birth puts off his splendour and is loved for his own sake by a maiden of low degree. In the early version the king loves a beggar maid. Mr. Tennyson suits his poem to modern notions, presenting the heroine as a girl of middle-class society, and disguising the young lord-lover as a painter. Scorning the caution of the Laureate, Mr. Byron places Lydia Fane, his heroine, in a farm-house, and represents Lord Loraine as disguising himself, for her sake, as a cow-boy. Love has to answer for many anomalies, and it is difficult to say that any form of transformation may not be attributed to his influence. It is certain, however, that a change such as is now presented is dramatically ineffective, and that extreme difficulty is experienced by the audience in receiving it. This slight thread of story serves for the four acts of the play. Rustic rivals interfere with the wooing of the nobleman, and his mother, not unnaturally averse from the marriage he contemplates, takes the matter in hand, and very nearly succeeds in defeating his schemes. He does not, indeed, obtain the wish of his heart until he has proved to be a less important person than he believed himself, a brother of roving propensities returning from over sea in the nick of time to relieve him of rank and title, which he begins to find oppressive.

In the treatment of this story there is a certain amount of cleverness. The two opening acts are interesting and amusing. From the moment when the third act opens, the weight of improbability oppresses the author

and audience. To render his story intelligible, Mr. Byron makes the characters announce one by one the intentions or the probable consequences of their actions; and, to spice his play, he presents a caricature of good society more extravagant than anything ever attempted upon the stage. Let the reader fancy the effect when the *dramatis personæ* explain that they say certain things because they know they will be overheard, or give a running commentary upon the drift of their own proceedings. Let him imagine, if he can, a nobleman finding amusement for those of his guests who are present by laughing at others who are absent, and on a momentary misconception of the motives of his friend ordering him out of the house, in which he stays as a visitor. After the first two acts, the play, always a little extravagant, becomes meaningless; and the excellent interpretation it receives in the principal characters is unable to give it a chance. The best rendering of characters, which have no *raison d'être*, will not justify their intrusion any more than realistic details in scenery will compensate for absurdity of action. If the play is to have a chance of success, the later acts must be completely reconstructed. On Mr. Neville and Miss Edith Grey fell the weight of the performance. The first, as *Lord Loraine*, acted with manliness and straightforwardness, that made the part seem almost natural; the latter, in spite of a thin and unsympathetic voice, gave a touching representation of the sorrows of *Lydia Fane*. Mr. Righton was good in a part wholly outside his ordinary line, and Mr. Anson, a comedian new to London, made a singularly favourable impression as a farm servant. 'A Game of Rumps,' a translation from the French, produced by Mr. Kean at the Princess's, when it was acted by Harley, Mrs. Winstanley, Misses C. Leclercq, Murray, Ternand, and Heath, and obtained a singular success, followed Mr. Byron's comedy. It showed Mr. Anson in another phase of his talents, and introduced to London Miss Marian Terry, a promising member of a family that has given the stage some of its most attractive actresses.

The prostration of dramatic art and taste in England is shown in the concessions which are constantly made to the supposed requirements of the audience. The idea of a play resting upon its merits is outside the belief or the comprehension of managers. Shakespeare requires the aid of the scene-painter, and Victor Hugo, were his works permitted by our censor, would need that of the low comedian. 'Arkwright's Wife,' the new drama of Messrs. Tom Taylor and John Saunders has both plot and character. It shows in dialogue and incident a grasp of North-country modes of thought, speech, and action, and it has a story both interesting and dramatic. More than this, it has an underlying idea capable of sustaining a fabric much more substantial than has been raised upon it. The conception of a woman, allied by her sympathies with a class which regards her husband as its foe, and true to it even to the sundering of all domestic ties, then, with widening perception, finding the error of her ways, and incurring by her enlightened experience the hostility and persecution of those with and for whom she has wrought, is far from commonplace. If it becomes commonplace in interpretation, the

change is due to the dramatists, who prefer considerations of popularity to those of art. A story, most probably apocryphal, relates that the wife of Richard Arkwright destroyed her husband's first model. On this slight framework, and on the fact that the claims of Arkwright to priority of invention were constantly disputed, a plot has been ingeniously constructed. The wife is the daughter of an inventor, ruined in pursuit of his hobby. Arkwright, fulfilling his duties as a hair-dresser, sees the girl when affairs are at their worst, and, captivated by her beauty, and not wholly unmindful of the fact that her father is a man from whom something may be got, relieves him from his difficulties, and proposes for her hand. The destruction of his model is brought about by mingled motives. Educated in the midst of sorrows, all attributable to the insane search after an unrealizable good, Mrs. Arkwright hates the name of invention. She has, moreover, class prejudices, and thinks that machinery will take the bread out of the mouths of the working classes. Last and most powerful motive of all is jealousy. Her father, who believes, not without cause, that Arkwright has stolen his ideas, stirs her to see in the cherished model a rival to herself in her husband's affections. When, accordingly, Arkwright returns from selling his invention, he finds the model destroyed by the hands of his wife. He drives her from his door. Her atonement consists in watching over her husband's safety, when her father, maddened by brooding upon his wrongs, real and supposed, has arranged with the machine-wreckers to destroy all Arkwright's property, and in opposing the frail barrier of her own life to the attempted inroad of the incensed spinners. The exaggerated importance attached to the model, a thing easily replaceable, is something like the absurd idea of the loss of marriage lines constantly seen in the drama. It scarce, however, calls for attention. On the whole, the plot is good, and the picture of Lancashire life it affords is correct and striking. The whole is marred, however, from the dramatic point by the importation of a variety of stage artifices, all more or less preposterous. Thus, because Arkwright is a barber, he is represented on the stage as seizing a reluctant clerk, binding him to a chair with a table-cloth, and shaving him in his own despite. This causes, of course, a laugh, but the impossibility of the position must present itself to every mind. The same necessity for low comedy continues. When a character puts down an article of furniture, it goes, of course, upon the toes of the comic man, who makes a funny grimace. Here is one element which should not have been introduced. A second is the spectacular. Upon the strength of fact that Sir Richard Arkwright is made Sheriff of Derbyshire, the *dénouement* is fixed for the day on which he arrives invested with his new titles and dignities. Against this in itself nothing can be urged. The processions of children, however, the hurrahs, and the comic and festive business generally interfere with the progress of the action, and detract from the pleasure of the audience. It may be supposed, however, that playgoers find something to recommend these things, seeing that they are still retained after the piece has been given frequently in the manufacturing districts. The acting in

two characters is good. In the remaining parts it is inoffensive. Mr. Emery's portrait of a Lancashire operative—keen, sharp, and shrewd in ordinary affairs, but mad on the subject of his invention, and remorseless in the sacrifice to it of his own affections and of those dear to him—is thoroughly artistic, and is such as no other English actor probably could give. Mr. Kelly, who plays *Arkwright*, gives a very effective, quiet, and intelligent presentation. There is a moderation about the whole, for which we cannot be too thankful. The only feminine impersonation calling for notice is the *Nancy Hyde* of Miss Daly. This is a sketch not wanting in colour of Lancashire life and manners.

### Dramatic Gossip.

THE production by Madame Ristori of Signor Giacometti's drama of 'Renata di Francia' has been postponed from Monday night to this evening, in consequence of difficulties with the censor. In compliance with the requirements of that active and formidable functionary, the preaching of Beza is divested of its theological character, and a large number of passages which refer to religious differences are excised. It is hard for a man to describe dramatically Huguenot and Leaguer strife, and the wars generally of "the religion," if he may not through the mouths of his characters attack either Protestant or Catholic faith. Purely dramatic utterance might, one would suppose, be taken for what it is worth, and need not be supposed to extend beyond the occasion that calls it forth. So long as we keep up so imposing a functionary as a censor, however, he must give proof of his existence. During the past week, Madame Ristori has appeared in Maria Stuarda and Maria Antonietta.

THE changes of the week include the appearance of Mr. Charles Mathews at the Gaiety, in 'Married for Money' and 'A Thousand a Year,' and that of Mr. John S. Clarke, at the Haymarket, in 'Paul Pry,' 'Among the Breakers,' and 'Toodles.'

THE performances of French plays announced in the *Athenæum* some weeks ago, as about to be given at the Holborn, will commence on the 27th inst., with a representation of the comedy of Scribe and Legouvé 'Les Doigts de Fée.' This will be supported by MM. Didier, Bilhaut, Honoré, Mesdames Maria Duplessy, Tholer, Wilhem, &c. Among pieces in preparation are 'Les Sceptiques,' 'La Joie de la Maison,' 'Gavaut, Minard & Co.,' 'Aux Crochets d'un Gendre,' and 'Les Fous.' The company includes many of the artists who appeared last year, with others who have not previously been seen in London.

'LE LÉGATAIRE UNIVERSEL' of Regnard has been revived at the Odéon, with M. Porel as Crispin, and M. Clerh as Géronte. A one-act comedy of M. Louis Leroy, entitled 'Le Haschich,' has also been given. It is a poor piece, not likely to obtain a lengthened run.

THE *débuts* of Mdlle. Rousseil are continuing at the Français with unvarying success. One is a little startled to hear a French critic declare her performance of Phèdre as the best that has been seen since the days of Rachel. Rumour speaks of the forthcoming withdrawal of Mdlle. Favart from the Comédie Française.

THE death is announced of Madame Esther Félix, the mother of the celebrated Rachel.

'LA FARIGONDAINE,' a half-forgotten melodrama of MM. Dupeuty and Bourget, has been revived at the Théâtre du Châtelet.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—D.—Dr. S.—A. E. M.—F. E. B.—M. C. R.—A. D.—A. J. H.—S. M. K. K.—H. C.—P. P.—H. W.—C. A. S.—received.

F. E. W.—Not of sufficient interest.

E. B. M.—The matter is of too old a date for us to notice it now.

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